

Arthur Miall

18 Bowdrie St. Fleet St. E.C.

THE

Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXIV.—NEW SERIES, No. 968.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 1864.

PRICE WITH UNSTAMPED 6d.
SUPPLEMENT STAMPED..... 6d.

EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE.

TERCENTENARY

OF THE

DEATH OF JOHN CALVIN.

The ANNUAL SOIREE will (D.V.) be held in FREEMASONS' HALL, GREAT QUEEN-STREET, LINCOLN'S-INN-FIELDS, on FRIDAY EVENING, May 27, 1864.

This being the Tercentenary of the day of JOHN CALVIN'S Death, it is intended, in compliance with the Invitation of our fellow Protestants in Geneva, to commemorate the event by making special reference to the blessings conferred on the Christian Church through him and his brother Reformers, and by devout thanksgiving to God.

All members and friends of the Evangelical Alliance, ladies as well as gentlemen, are earnestly invited to be present.

The Right Hon. Lord CALTHORPE, President of the Alliance, will take the Chair.

The Rev. T. R. Birks, M.A., the Rev. George Smith, D.D., the Hon. and Rev. B. W. Noel, M.A., the Rev. Wm Arthur, M.A., and the Rev. Thomas M'Orle, D.D., LL.D., will address the meeting.

Tea and Coffee will be provided at Six o'clock.

Tickets, 1s. each, to be had at this Office, and at Freemasons' Hall, on or before the Evening of meeting.

JAMES DAVIS, Secretary.

HERMANN SCHMETTAU, Foreign Sec.

7, Adam-street, Strand, W.C.,
May 18, 1864.

MEMORIAL CHURCH of the PILGRIM FATHERS,

BUCKENHAM-SQUARE, NEW KENT-ROAD

(Opposite the Paragon).

The SOUTHWARK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH will be OPENED on WEDNESDAY, May 25th, 1864. The

Rev. THOMAS BINNEY

will offer the Dedication Prayer; and the

Rev. SAMUEL MARTIN

Will Preach in the Morning, service to commence at Twelve o'clock; the

Rev. HENRY ALLON,

In the Evening, Service to commence at Seven o'clock.

A Cold Collation will be provided in the Hall adjoining, at Half-past Two o'clock.

SAMUEL MORLEY, Esq., will preside.

On Sabbath, May 29th,

Rev. BALDWIN BROWN, B.A.,

Will preach in the Morning, Service to commence at Quarter to Eleven;

Rev. T. W. AVELING

In the Evening, Service to commence at Half-past Six o'clock.

On TUESDAY, May 31st, a PUBLIC MEETING will be held.

BENJAMIN SCOTT, Esq., Chamberlain of London,

in the Chair.

Tea at Five o'clock, Meeting at Seven.

On SABBATH, June 5th.

Rev. JOHN WADDINGTON, D.D., Pastor of the Church,

will Preach in the Morning; and the

Rev. NEWMAN HALL, LL.B.,

In the afternoon, at Three o'clock. Service in the Evening

at Half-past Six

Collections will be made after each Service, in aid of the

Building Fund.

On the Sabbaths subsequent to the Opening Services the

following Ministers have engaged to occupy the pulpit, as an

expression of their fraternal interest and sympathy:—Rev.

George Rose, Rev. W. Cooke, D.D., Rev. W. Essery, and the

Rev. J. Pillans.

HASTINGS CONGREGATIONAL

CHAPEL, ROBERTSON-STREET.

Rev. J. GRIFFIN, Pastor.

RE-OPENING SERVICES.

This place of Worship, having been enlarged, will be RE-OPENED on WEDNESDAY, the 25th instant. The Rev. C. H. SPURGEON will preach Morning and Evening. Morning Service will commence at Eleven o'clock; the Evening at Seven.

On SUNDAY, May 29th, the Rev. JAMES GRIFFIN will preach in the Morning, service at Eleven. The Rev. THOMAS BINNEY will preach in the Evening, Service at 6.30. Collections will be made after each service.

RAGGED CHURCH and CHAPEL UNION,

For Providing Places of Worship for the Destitute, 4, TRAFALGAR-SQUARE, CHARING-CROSS.

The ANNUAL MEETING of this Society will be held at Half-past Six o'clock, on THURSDAY EVENING, May 26, 1864, at EXETER HALL.

R. BAXTER, Esq., will Preside,

The Rev. Dr. Hugh Allen, the Rev. J. A. Spurgeon, the Rev. J. P. Waldo, the Rev. J. H. Wilson, and W. J. Maxwell, Esq., will address the meeting.

BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

A DESIGNATION SERVICE will be held on WEDNESDAY, the 25th May, at WESTBOURNE GROVE CHAPEL, to set apart the Rev. E. F. KINGDON for Missionary Work in China.

Service to commence at Seven o'clock.

FREDERICK TRESTRAIL,

EDW. B. UNDERHILL, } Secretaries.

ABORIGINES PROTECTION SOCIETY.

The TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING of this Society will be held in the LOWER ROOM of EXETER HALL, on THURSDAY EVENING next, the 19th of May.

R. N. FOWLER, Esq., M.A., the Treasurer of the Society, will take the chair at Half-past Seven o'clock precisely.

Addresses will be delivered by Colonel Haddfield, the Rev. S. Crowther, Bishop Designate of the Niger; the Rev. James Long, of Calcutta; the Rev. James Davis, Secretary of the Evangelical Alliance; Thomas Hodgkin, Esq., M.D.; the Rev. John Gibson, of New South Wales; Commander Pim, R.N., and other gentlemen.

Admission Free.

BRITISH and FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

The ANNUAL MEETING of this Society will be held on FRIDAY, the 20th inst., at the LONDON TAVERN, BISHOPS-GATE STREET.

SAMUEL GURNEY, Esq., M.P., in the Chair. Le Chevalier de Almeida (Portugal), Samuel Bowley, Esq., the Rev. James Long (Nil Durpan of British India), the Rev. John Kennedy, the Rev. Dr. Massie, and other gentlemen, will address the meeting.

The Chair will be taken at Twelve o'clock punctually.

Tickets for the platform and reserved seats may be had at the Society's office, 27, New Broad-street, E.C.

L. A. CHAMEROVZOW, Secretary.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, MATTLAND PARK, HAVERSTOCK-HILL.

For Children of both Sexes, and from any part of the Kingdom. Instituted 1758. Incorporated 1848.

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His Royal Highness the PRINCE OF WALES.

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JOHN REMINGTON MILLS, Esq., M.P.

VICE-PRESIDENT AND TREASURER.

HENRY EDMUND GURNEY, Esq.

BANKERS.

The London Joint-Stock Bank, Princes-street, E.C.

THE 106TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHARITY

Will be celebrated by a PUBLIC FESTIVAL, at the LONDON TAVERN, BISHOPSGATE-STREET, on TUESDAY, 24th May, 1864, HENRY EDMUND GURNEY, Esq., Vice-President and Treasurer, in the Chair.

LIST OF STEWARDS.

Alexander Gordon, Esq. H. Warren Hall, Esq.

James Harrison, Esq. J. A. Hawkins, Esq.

J. G. Heppburn, Esq. Thomas Herbert, Esq., Alderman (Nottingham).

T. R. Hill, Esq., Alderman (Worcester).

Jesse Hobson, Esq., F.S.S. J. J. Hubbard, Esq.

Arthur W. Jaffray, Esq. Joseph Jennings, Esq.

Robert Kenneth, Esq. John Kinahan, Esq.

Thomas Lucas, Esq. George S. Meason, Esq.

Thomas Moore, Esq. Joseph Moreland, Esq.

Samuel Morley, Esq. G. L. Nel, Esq., Alderman.

E. J. Oliver, Esq. Richard Peck, Esq.

Jeremiah Pilcher, Esq. Thomas Sercombe, Esq.

Henry Sewell, Esq. Charles Shaw, Esq.

Thomas Sheppard, Esq. B. W. Smith, Esq.

W. R. Spicer, Esq. E. T. Sturge, Esq.

T. W. Swinburne, Esq. J. J. Tanner, Esq., V.P.

B. A. Tomkins, Esq., V.P. James Townley, Esq.

Charles Tyler, Esq. Charles Walton, Esq.

Martin Ware, Esq., V.P. T. P. Warren, Esq.

Edgar A. Waugh, Esq. Edmund Wilder, Esq.

John W. Williams, Esq. W. H. Williams, Esq.

Robert Williams, Esq. W. N. Wortley, Esq.

M. A. Garvey, Esq., LL.B.

Tickets for Ladies and Gentlemen may be had of the Secretary.

Contributions to add to the Chairman's list will be gratefully acknowledged.

JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

Offices—32, Ludgate-hill, E.C.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL.

THIRTY-FIVE CHILDREN will be ADMITTED into the SCHOOL in OCTOBER, in addition to the thirty-five elected in April. Forms to fill up, and all information, may be had at the Office. Candidates must be between Seven and Eleven years of age, in good health, and are eligible from any part of the kingdom. There is still accommodation provided for 100 more than there are at present in the School, in the Enlarged Building. The numbers are only limited for want of Funds.

CONTRIBUTIONS are earnestly SOLICITED, and will be thankfully received by the Secretary. To constitute a Governor for Life, 10l. 10s. and upwards; or Annually, 2l. and upwards; a Life Subscriber, 5l. 5s.; Annually, 10s. 6d. The House is free for the Visits of Governors, or by their order, and all the accounts are open to their inspection.

JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

Office—32, Ludgate-hill, E.C.

EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.

Now ON VIEW, "Hampton Court, Sunday, 1658," painted by CHARLES LUCY. Open from Ten till Five.

EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.

Now ON VIEW, SELOUS' great picture of "The Crucifixion" (16 feet by 10), containing 300 figures, the city of ancient Jerusalem, with its temples, palaces, and public buildings, the Mount of Olives, and the scenery round about. (Mr. John Bowden's descriptive Lecture at Twelve, Two, and Four daily.) Open from Ten till Five.

EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.

Now ON VIEW, CARL WERNER'S Thirty original Drawings of Jerusalem, Bethlehem, and the Holy Places. Open from Ten till Five.

UNIVERSITY of LONDON.

NOTICE is HEREBY GIVEN, that the next HALF-YEARLY EXAMINATION for MATRICULATION in this University will commence on MONDAY, the 27th June, 1864. In addition to the Metropolitan Examination, Provincial Examinations will be held at St. Cuthbert's College, Ushaw; Stonyhurst College; Owen's College, Manchester; Queen's College, Liverpool; and the Town Hall, Leeds.

Every Candidate is required to transmit his certificate of age to the Registrar (Burlington House, London, W.) at least fourteen days before the commencement of the Examination.

Candidates who pass the Matriculation Examination are entitled to proceed to the degrees conferred by the University in Arts, Science, and Medicine; and are exempt (1) from the Entrance Examination otherwise imposed on Candidates for admission to the Royal Military College at Sandhurst; (2) from those Examinations of which every Medical Student now commencing his professional studies is required to have passed some one; (3) from the preliminary Examination otherwise imposed by the College of Surgeons on Candidates for its Fellowship; and (4) from those Examinations of which it is necessary for every person entering upon Articles of Clerkship to an Attorney to have passed some one—such as Matriculate in the First Division being entitled to the additional exemption of one year's service.

WILLIAM B. CARPENTER, M.D., Registrar.

May 12, 1864.

NATIONAL HOSPITAL for the PARALYSED and EPILEPTIC, QUEEN-SQUARE, BLOOMSBURY.

Treasurer—MARQUIS TOWNSHEND.

Chairman—ALDERMAN HALE.

SPECIAL AND URGENT APPEAL.

The Board of Management most earnestly solicit further AID, as, owing to the increased number of Applicants, their present resources can only provide for a limited proportion of the sufferers. Epilepsy is undoubtedly the direst of human afflictions, as it incapacitates its victims from any employment. Paralysis may be described as a life-long martyrdom. Additional wards have been furnished, and did the funds permit, the patients could at once be received.

Bankers—Coutts and Co., Strand; Union Bank, City.

E. H. CHANDLER, Hon. Sec.

GEORGE REID, Secretary.

HOSPITAL for SICK CHILDREN, 49, GREAT ORMOND-STREET, W.C.

This Hospital is not Endowed, but is wholly dependent on Voluntary Contributions for support.

FUNDS are urgently needed.

F. H. DICKINSON, Chairman.

BANKERS:

Williams, Deasod, and Co.; Messrs. Hoare; Messrs. Herries.

WANTED, a SINGLE GENTLEMAN, as

STEWARDS for the DISSENTERS' PROPRIETARY SCHOOL, TAUNTON; or a GENTLEMAN and his WIFE, between the ages of Thirty-five and Fifty, without incur-brance, as STEWARD and MATRON. The former must be able to exert a wise, paternal, and moral influence in this important institution; be a good accountant, and accustomed to trade transactions. The latter must unite with a kindly and affectionate disposition a thorough knowledge of the duties required in the management of a large household. It is indispensable that they be recognised members of a Christian church of the Independent denomination. The salary will be liberal.

For particulars as to duties, &c., apply to the Secretary, Rev. J. S. Underwood, Taunton.

MEDICAL.—A Good OPENING for a

steady, persevering MEDICAL PRACTITIONER, in a rapidly increasing neighbourhood, in consequence of the death of a medical gentleman. Some fixtures and a library, &c., on reasonable terms. Only principals treated with.

J. M., 101, Stockport-road, Manchester.

WANTED, for the Son of a Missionary, a

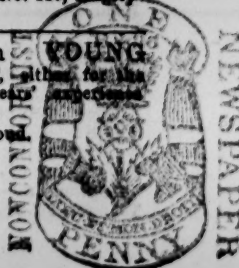
YOUTH of Seventeen, who has been educated in England, a SITUATION in a BANK or a MERCHANT'S or a MANUFACTURER'S COUNTING-HOUSE, or any house in which a thorough knowledge of business could be obtained. Residence in the family much preferred. A moderate premium not objected to.

For further particulars, apply to "F. E." No. 120, Hagley-road, Birmingham.

TO DRAPERS.—A Christian

LADY wishes a RE-ENGAGEMENT, either for the COUNTER or SHOW-ROOM. Three years' experience. Salary £20.

Address, A. W., Post-office, Strand.



TO BE LET, a GENTEEL RESIDENCE,
not ten minutes' walk from the Chelmsford Railway Station, with Lawn and Paddock, containing Entrance Hall, Dining and Drawing Rooms, Library, Four Bedrooms, Two Servants' ditto, and Water Closet, with separate staircase; convenient Kitchen, Pantry, and Scullery, good Water; Two-stall Stable, Chaise and Harness Houses.
Apply, to Mr. A. Darby, Auctioneer, Chelmsford.

TRAINING OF TEACHERS.—Young MEN
between the ages of Eighteen and Thirty, and Young WOMEN between Seventeen and Twenty-five, are ADMITTED into HOMERTON COLLEGE, the Training Institution of the Congregational Board of Education.
Applications to be addressed to the Rev. W. J. UNWIN, LL.D., The College, Homerton, N.E.

WANTED, an APPOINTMENT as MASTER of a SCHOOL, or as NON-RESIDENT ASSISTANT. The Advertiser has had considerable experience as Master in large National, Middle-Class, and Grammar Schools. Trained Certificated Disenter. Unexceptionable Testimonials and References.
"Beta," Parkstone, Poole, Dorset.

CALABAR INSTITUTION, JAMAICA.—A TEACHER well acquainted with the best modes of Tuition, is WANTED for the NORMAL SCHOOL DEPARTMENT of this Institution to TRAIN Young Coloured Men for Schoolmasters.
Applications and Testimonials to be sent to the Secretaries of the Baptist Missionary Society, 33, Moorgate-street, London.

HOUSEKEEPER, or COMPANION to a LADY.—WANTED, by the Advertiser, aged Thirty-nine, well-acquainted to Household Duties, a SITUATION as above.
Address, "A. B.," Post-office, Romford, Essex.

HOME SCHOOL for YOUNG GENTLEMEN.
MOUNT PLEASANT, NAILSWORTH, near STROUD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
PRINCIPALS:
Mr. and Mrs. J. RUSSELL LEONARD.
Prospectuses, with Terms and References, on application.

TOTTERIDGE-PARK SCHOOL, NORTH LONDON.
There will be several VACANCIES after the MIDSUMMER RECESS.
For terms, apply to Rev. W. L. Brown, M.A., Totteridge Chapel House.
The SPEECH-DAY is fixed for June 16th; the Hon. HENRY COWPER, President.
P.S.—A CHRISTIAN GENTLEMAN is required for the UPPER ENGLISH DESK.

EDUCATION.—NOTICE of REMOVAL.—The Rev. OSWALD JACKSON begs to inform his friends that he has arranged to RESIGN his PASTORATE at Ringwood, Hants, at MIDSUMMER NEXT, and will then (D.V.) REMOVE his EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENT to a commodious House, surrounded by its Grounds of 15 acres, at Theobalds, Cheshunt, Herts.
Further particulars in future advertisements.

EDUCATION for YOUNG LADIES, LANSLOWNE HOUSE, LONDON-ROAD, LEICESTER.
(Situation high and healthy, at the outskirts of the town.)
Conducted by the Misses MIALI, assisted by Professors, and French and English Resident Governesses.—A thoroughly solid English education, under the immediate superintendence of the Principals; with all the necessary accomplishments—French, German, Latin, Music, Singing, Drawing, &c. Occasional Scientific Lectures from Professors. Special attention given to moral and religious training; and the comforts and advantages of a refined home provided.
References to the parents of the pupils.

COMMERCIAL SCHOOL, CRANFORD HALL, near HOUNSLOW, is conducted with special regard to the requirements of the Sons of respectable Tradesmen and Farmers.
Mr. VERNEY is assisted by experienced resident Teachers—English and Foreign. The Pupils are carefully trained in good habits, and fitted for active Business Pursuits. The premises are extensive, and contain every convenience; the situation is high and healthy; the food is of the best description and unlimited; and the terms are moderate.
A Prospectus forwarded upon application; and Pupils admitted at any time.

LONDON.—SHIRLEY'S TEMPERANCE HOTEL, 37, QUEEN'S-SQUARE, BLOOMSBURY, W.C.
Beds from 1s. 6d.; PLAIN BREAKFAST or TEA, 1s.
The above house is well and centrally situated. There is a spacious Coffee room overlooking the Square; it is within Five Minutes' Walk of Holborn, and near the Inns of Court, British Museum, St. Paul's, &c.; and admirably suited for parties, either on pleasure or business.

FORSYTH'S TEMPERANCE HOTELS.—FORSYTH'S "COBDEN" HOTEL, 87, ARGYLE-STREET, GLASGOW, Central, Elegantly Furnished, Commodious, and Perfectly Ventilated. Also FORSYTH'S HOTEL, ABERDEEN.

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PORTER AND MIALI.
PRIVATE BOARDING HOUSE,
26, Carlisle-terrace, Foxley-road, Kensington.
Within easy distance of Railway Communication to all parts.

BOARDING SCHOOL for TRADESMEN'S SONS, ROCHFORD, ESSEX.
Principal—Mr. GEORGE FOSTER.
Terms, 20l. per annum. Circulars at Messrs. Mead and Powell's, 73, Cheapside.
N.B. Preparatory Department at Forest-hill.

SHAFTESBURY HALL BOARDING-HOUSE, 36, ALDERSGATE-STREET, near the General Post-office, London. Good and well-aired Beds, 1s. and 1s. 6d.; Plain Breakfast or Tea, 9d.; Dinner, 1s. The situation is quiet, airy, and central. Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd.

REBECCA HUSSEY'S BOOK CHARITY.
The TRUSTEES of this CHARITY are prepared to make GRANTS of RELIGIOUS and USEFUL BOOKS to be placed in permanent Libraries, at Schools, or other Institutions of a public character, in England or Wales.
Application to be made to Mr. John M. Clabon, Clerk to the Trustees, 21, Great George-street, Westminster.

COLMAN'S GENUINE MUSTARD.

TRADE MARK.

On each



THE BULL'S HEAD,

Package.

At the Great Exhibition, 1862,

OBTAINED THE

ONLY PRIZE MEDAL

For "Purity and Excellence of Quality."

Sold by all Grocers, Druggists, &c., throughout the United Kingdom.

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CHAIRMAN OF ULSTER BOARD—William Browne, Esq., (Messrs. Browne, Reid, and Co.) Waring-street, Belfast, and Riverstone, Holywood.

CHAIRMAN OF MUNSTER BOARD—Robert Scott, Esq., (Messrs. Robert Scott and Co., Iron and Hardware Merchants), St. Patrick's Quay, Cork.

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1st. BY PURCHASING SHARES they may become proprietors, and entitled to share in all the profits of the Company.

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3rd. BY MAKING DEPOSITS, easily withdrawable, they may get regular dividends at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum.

Prospectuses and every information forwarded for one stamp.

PROGRESS OF THE COMPANY.

Since January 1, 1864, the sum of £16,000 sterling has been advanced on first-class securities, and upwards of Seven Thousand Shares and Debentures have been taken up. Mortgages for more than £40,000 are in course of completion. The Company now consists of upwards of 1,500 Share and Debenture holders.

Persons desirous of taking Shares before a premium is placed thereon must apply for the same without delay. The next allotment will be made on the first day of June.

Offices:—156, Strand, London, W.C.; 84, Middle Abbey-street, Dublin; 13, Donegall-place, Belfast; 93, St. Patrick-street, Cork; and Alliance Chambers, Upper Temple-street, Birmingham; with Agencies throughout the United Kingdom.

THE ALLIANCE NATIONAL LAND, BUILDING, and INVESTMENT COMPANY (LIMITED).

NOTICE is hereby given that on and after JUNE 1st, 1864, NO APPLICATIONS FOR SHARES will be received except at a Premium.

By Order of the Board,

JOSEPH A. HORNER, General Manager.
Chief Offices, 156, Strand, London, W.C.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

CLERICAL, MEDICAL, and GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

ESTABLISHED 1824.

All persons who effect Policies on the Participating Scale before June 30th, 1864, will be entitled at the Next Bonus to one year's additional Share of Profits over later Assurers.

Tables of Rates and Forms of Proposal, and the last Report showing the financial position of the Society, can be obtained from any of the Society's Agents, or of

GEORGE CUTLIFFE, Actuary and Secretary.
13, St. James's-square, London, S.W.

BRITISH EMPIRE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Annual Income	£74,680
Profits Declared	145,389
Claims Paid	183,470
Accumulated Premium Fund	274,631

The Triennial Division has just been made, which gives a CASH BONUS OF 24 PER CENT.

The following are specimens of Reversionary Bonuses:—

Age when Assured.	No. of Premiums Paid.	Amount Assured.	Total Premiums Paid.	Amount Reversionary Bonuses.	Amount Payable at Death, including Bonuses.
43	15	500	£ s. d. 196 11 3	£ s. d. 96 9 2	£ s. d. 593 9 2
24	16	600	203 4 0	107 14 6	707 14 6
35	17	600	235 8 4	105 17 2	605 17 2
48	17	600	355 1 3	130 17 0	630 17 0
38	15	1,000	343 15 0	180 3 11	1,180 3 11
32	17	800	133 13 3	60 10 0	360 10 0
29	16	500	188 0 0	94 10 9	594 10 9
38	17	800	163 17 0	65 11 3	365 11 3

Prospectuses and all needful information may be obtained on application to

ALFRED LENCH SAUL, Secretary.
32, New Bridge-street, London, E.C.

IMMEDIATE CASH ADVANCES.—Money Lent on Personal Security, Leases, &c.

SUMS from 10l. to 300l. ADVANCED two or three days after application, for two years, one year, and six months (repayable by weekly, monthly, or quarterly instalments), and good bills discounted. Charges moderate, and strict confidence observed.

LONDON and PROVINCIAL LOAN COMPANY: Office, 297, Goswell-road, London. Office Hours, Nine till Four.

Forms of application and prospectus (gratis) on receipt of a stamped envelope.

H. FLEAR, Manager.

BANK of NEW ZEALAND.

Incorporated by Act of General Assembly.
Bankers to the General Government of New Zealand, the Provincial Governments of Auckland, Canterbury, Otago, &c., &c.
CAPITAL, £500,000. RESERVE FUND, £200,000.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES IN NEW ZEALAND.

Auckland	Blenheim	Oamaru	Invercargill
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Napier	Akaroa	Wetherstone	Wakatipu
Wellington	Christchurch	Waitahuna	Shotover
Wanganui	Kaipoi	Dunstan	Kingston
Nelson	Timaru	Manuherikia	Hogburn
Pictou	Dunedin		

This Bank grants Drafts on any of the above-named places in New Zealand, and transacts every description of Banking business connected with that Colony, on terms which may be learned on application at the London Office.

F. LARKWORTHY,
Managing Director.

50, Old Broad-street, City.

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Harry George Gordon, Esq.	Stephen P. Kennard, Esq.
George Ireland, Esq.	Patrick F. Robertson, Esq.
Duncan James Kay, Esq.	Robert Smith, Esq.

MANAGER—C. J. Braine, Esq.

The Directors are prepared to issue Debentures for one, three, and five years, at 5, 5½, and 6 per cent. respectively; they are also prepared to invest Money on Mortgage in Ceylon and Mauritius, either with or without the guarantee of the Company, as may be arranged.

Applications for particulars to be made at the Offices of the Company, No. 12, Leadenhall-street, London, E.C.

(By order) JOHN ANDERSON, Secretary.

POLYTECHNIC.

Patron: His Royal Highness the Prince of WALES.

WHITSUN HOLIDAYS.

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THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

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Eccliaetical Affairs.

THE "MORE EXCELLENT WAY."

A LETTER addressed to us by "An Ex-Incumbent," to which we give insertion in another column, contains some suggestions as to the most appropriate mode of dealing with the Church of England so as to fit it for doing the great work for which it exists. The writer has expressed thoughts which we believe to be much more prevalent among, we will not say dissatisfied, but dissatisfied, Conformists, than Nonconformists are apt to imagine—thoughts to which it will be wisdom in the latter to give respectful heed as expressing truth in one of its aspects at least—but thoughts which, in proportion as they are fairly canvassed, will, we are convinced, turn out to be more incomplete, and far more untenable as isolated conclusions, than any which the Liberation Society have put forth. We hope, therefore, our correspondent will not take it amiss if we comment upon his communication, and briefly state the objections which the friends of that Society would probably concur in urging against the adoption of the course which he recommends as "a more excellent way."

We must caution our rev. correspondent against attaching too much importance to the little discrepancies he may have noted in our report of the proceedings of the Liberation Society, whether they reflect upon the terms in which the objects of that organisation are stated, or upon the differences of opinion supposed to obtain among the members of it in relation to the most conspicuous of those objects. We admit that to an observer from without, and especially to one who evidently has not yet made himself acquainted with the published views and proceedings of the Society, further than as they may be gleaned from our necessarily abbreviated report, certain incidents, expressions, and features connected with the meetings reported may very naturally appear of far greater moment, whether in their own nature or as indications of something beyond themselves, than an accurate knowledge of all the facts of the case would justify. When, for example, he remarks of the Society, that "half of its name is a misnomer," because "to liberate from support is not English," he is open to the reply that its title is "The Liberation of Religion from," not "State support," but "State patronage and control," and he will probably admit that "patronage" sometimes involves both a degradation and a bondage, from which a man may well desire to be freed. When, again, our correspondent observes that there are "discrepancies in the objects which different members of the Liberation Society avow—some disclaiming the intention of alienating the endowments of the Church to secular objects," we fancy that further inquiry would probably lead him to the conclusion that his inference has been drawn rather from the imperfections of a condensed report, or, at best, from the crude utterance of

some speaker who had not full command of the language he should employ, than from any settled difference of opinion among the members as to the ultimate objects of the association. That he has been misled is not his own fault—but we think we are in a position to assure him that he *has been* misled.

On the question of "Church property"—who were the donors of the bulk of it, whether the gift was absolute or in the nature of a trust, and whether Parliament may, if it thinks fit, apply it to secular purposes without justly incurring the charge of "robbery and sacrilege," we refrain from controversy with our correspondent. If he will be at the trouble of reading all that the Society has published on this subject, he will, perhaps, admit that there are two sides to it—and that it cannot summarily be disposed of in three or four sentences. We believe we shall not be far from the truth if we say that the following opinions are all-but-unanimously held by the members of the Society. 1. That Church property is, in the fullest sense of the term, "national property." 2. That if the nation, acting by its legitimate organs of legislation, should determine that religion would be better promoted by applying such property to secular ends, there is no good reason, in justice or in religion, why it should be debarred from carrying that determination into effect. 3. That in doing so, however, it should scrupulously satisfy all individual interests, and all well-founded moral claims. 4. That the redistribution of Church property among all the religious bodies is not merely precluded by insuperable practical difficulties, but would be far more detrimental to the maintenance and extension of Christianity in the land than the present arrangement. We think we may further state it as the general opinion that it is only because the spiritual objects of the Church are hampered, lowered, enervated, and, to a considerable extent, perverted and frustrated by a mass of endowments, and by the limitations and conditions which they necessarily bring with them, that any importance is attached to the question of Church property at all—and that if it should, by some miraculous dispensation, disappear from the scene to-morrow, the question as to the best mode of advancing the objects of the Church of Christ in this country, would be immensely simplified.

Our correspondent asks of the Liberation Society, "Why will it not join with a large body of Churchmen in striving to alter the formularies and subscriptions of the Church, and to improve its polity and discipline, so that all Orthodox Nonconformists might be able to enter its pale; their well-qualified ministers to enter its pulpits, and their laity its fold? The existing chapels of these denominations might, in this case, by equitable terms of coalition, be brought into union with the Established Church. This would be a truly catholic proceeding—this would hold out the promise of something like the great blessing of national religious unity, and would enable the defenders of the common faith to oppose a more united front to its numerous and pertinacious foes." Well, we believe there are none who yearn more deeply for the union and co-operation of all truly Christian bodies in England, Scotland, and Ireland than the members of the Liberation Society. Naturally brought about—that is, brought about by the force of the religious sympathies common to those bodies, and freely organising and expressing itself, it is, undoubtedly, "a consummation devoutly to be wished." But here again the endowment system stands in the way, by necessitating conditions impossible to be complied with. For whoever holds these endowments must hold them under the sanction of the Legislature, and must be bound by the terms which the Legislature may see fit to impose. Suppose the Orthodox Nonconformists and the Evangelical Churchmen were strong enough to compel the Legislature so to modify the articles, formularies, polity and discipline of the Established Church as to admit of the several bodies becoming one—the authorised Church of England. It

would then, as now, hold its rights, privileges, doctrine, &c.—from the State, and subject, of course, to the will of the State. The Orthodox Nonconformists, having fallen in with this plan, will have given their public sanction to the principle that Cæsar shall be accepted as the ultimate arbiter in reference to Church proceedings. To-day they may get everything in accordance with their views of truth and right—everything, that is to say, except their idea of the Scriptural mode of supporting the Christian ministry, which, of course, they would have to surrender. But who could expect that when this was done, and the State had been obliged to alter the doctrinal and disciplinary bases on which the National Church shall rest, so far, at least, as to meet the views of the Evangelical and the Orthodox, that there would not be Dissent of another character? Who can say that Sacramentalists and Rationalists would long endure the change, or would consent to remain within the pale of an Establishment thus modified? Who can guarantee us against their working for and obtaining, under their new circumstances, such public sympathy and support as would enable them, after awhile, to copy our example, and once more alter the legalised formularies, creeds, polity, and discipline, to suit their views and give effect to their convictions? The law of this country must ultimately express the sentiment of the people of this country. If the essential features of an Established Church are to be authorised by law, their base is public opinion, and public opinion may vary. Comprehension, under the sanction of law, has, in all countries in which it has obtained, tended rapidly to Rationalism. We object to do that by means of law, which can only be safely done by means of liberty. We repudiate methods which will deprive us of our freedom, and may ultimately result in the loss of our spiritual power. We cannot make our appeal to Cæsar in matters in which our sole fealty is due to Christ—no, not even for the sake of a union which we longingly desire, but which, thus obtained, might prove but "a delusion, a mockery, and a snare." We would fain have said more, but regard for our space forbids.

ECCLIASTICAL NOTES.

It is rather more than fifty years since Dr. Herbert Marsh, then Margaret Professor of Divinity, but subsequently Bishop of Peterborough, preached his famous sermon and wrote his equally famous tract against the circulation of the Bible without the Prayer-book. The Dean of Carlisle had, at a public meeting, previously given the Book of Common Prayer the title of the "Corrective" of the sacred Scriptures. Dr. Marsh, however, did not go quite so far as this. He simply maintained that, if the poor (how careful Church dignitaries have always been of the poor—on paper!) were to be kept from Dissent, it was necessary to accompany every Bible with a Prayer-book. Dr. Marsh believed, in Dr. Clarke's words, that the distribution of the Bible alone was "hostile to the interests of the Established Church." "If," he said, "we neglect to provide the poor of the Establishment with the Book of Common Prayer, as well as with the Bible, we certainly neglect the means of preventing their seduction from the Established Church. The Dissenters remain Dissenters because they use not the Liturgy, and Churchmen will become Dissenters if they likewise neglect to use it with the Bible." It was another argument at this time, which Dr. Marsh also used rather freely, that if the Bible were circulated alone its influence must be such that the Test Act would, by-and-by, be repealed. "Here," said the affrighted doctor—who, however, was an able man and the leader of a large party in the Church—"here let me ask every cool and impartial observer whether anything can be better calculated to prepare the way for a repeal of the Test Act than

the rapid progress of the modern Bible Society"! So, you see, the Bible was believed to be, by itself, both the foe of the Establishment and the foe of ecclesiastical tyranny. Both were doomed, if its circulation, without a corrective, were allowed.

Now, we will not do the *Clerical Journal* the injustice of supposing that it is prepared to go quite the length of Dr. Marsh, but it is travelling on Dr. Marsh's line, and has said some things which even that staunch Episcopal bigot would have hesitated to endorse. It has raised the old cry—No Bible without an authoritative exposition! The writer of this article asserts in plain and unreserved language that the circulation of the Bible has in most cases been "an entire failure unless distributed and regulated by the teaching of the Church," and sneeringly adds that "as much confidence appeared to be felt that Bibles sown broadcast would as surely bring forth a crop of Christian faith and holiness, as a handful of corn cast into the ground would produce its kind." He derides the notion of the sufficiency of the Bible while there are such people as Independents, Methodists, Quakers, and Baptists. "We should have rather expected," he says, "that when the Bible had failed to teach these parties to agree as to what baptism is, and what are the elementary principles of Church government, they would hesitate before they gave it to the world without note or comment," and he advises them to "let religion alone, till they can come to an agreement as to what it is."

You see, in these few sentences, the essence of all intolerance and all State Churchism. "There is one God, and Mohammed is his prophet"—there is one Bible, and the State-Church of England is its interpreter. The Bible is of no use without this Church—in fact it has been an "entire failure" unless "regulated by its teaching." The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—to put the thing as it ought to be put—are of no value without the Prayer-book of the Church of England. They do not teach the right doctrine of baptism or even any elementary principles of Church government. These are to be found in the Prayer-book; and until a man accepts all that it teaches, he had better "let religion alone." Ecclesiastical egotism could scarcely further go in this direction. There is some, of course, of this egotism in all sects, the difference consisting mainly in quantity not in quality. One will tell you all what the Bible means—having not the smallest doubt about it—in thirty-nine articles; another in twenty-one, or even four or five. Such egotism commonly leads to arrogance, arrogance to intolerance, and intolerance to persecution. No Bible without the Prayer-book, and no Church without our creed! Another march or two of the intellect, and the creed is enforced with all due pains and penalties, from social exclusion to the *auto da fe*. But, after all, what kind of intellect must that be which will plainly tell the Almighty that His word is a failure unless distributed and regulated by the Church? The same spirit informs Him that Christ needs and must have the aid of the tax-gatherer and the policeman, or His Church will never thrive or be supported. We are anxious, however, to know whether this is to be the new "cry" of the Church? Is it to be again maintained that the reading of the Bible encourages Dissent? You see Dr. Marsh was unfortunately right. Dissent has spread with the circulation of the Scriptures, and the Test Act has been abolished. A little more, and what will become of Church-rates, Acts of Uniformity, and the compulsory support of religion? So we read, wrongly or rightly, the article in the *Journal*, and we can only say that our contemporary, like Dr. Marsh, is no doubt right.

If the High Church is disposed to depreciate the authority and sufficiency of the Scriptures, not so Lord Shaftesbury. The correspondence of the noble lord with the secretary of the Church Institution has now been published. It commences with a letter in which Lord Shaftesbury inquires of the secretary whether he has any objection to urge against the publication of their correspondence. The letter is addressed "Sir," and subscribed, "Your obedient servant." Mr. Howells Davies responds to "My Lord" that the committee of the institution can have "no possible objection" to the letters being made public, and after that he has "the honour to be, &c." Then we have the invitation to speak, in which the purpose of the Institution is described, and after a reminder, a letter from the Earl, in which he says that strong as are the differences between himself and some members of the committee, they are as nothing compared with those that exist between him (and he is sure the Church Institution also), and the section represented by the Essayists and Reviewers. "If this be so," he says, "and we are to make common cause against the

common enemy, I will enter into it heart and soul, and do what little in me lies to maintain the spiritual and temporal dignity of the Church of England." This letter seems to have disturbed the peaceful councils of Trafalgar-square, for in reply, the secretary states that "the discussion of doctrinal points, however indirectly, is not allowed by the rules of the institution." The Earl's reply is quick and decisive:—

April 20, 1864.
SIR,—Allow me to thank you for your letter, the explanation it contains, and the copy of the resolution that the committee have done me the honour to place in my hands. If you will be so good as to refer to my letter in which I accepted the proffered honour, you will see the principle on which I did so. Your present letter announces that the 'discussion of doctrinal points, however indirectly, is not allowed.' Though I am not desirous of theological debate, I cannot, in the actual position of religious matters, consent to be bound down to a simple defence of Church-rates and other temporalities. I have a great regard for the external fabric of the Church, but I have a much higher regard for its spiritual condition; and I must, therefore, decline, with much regret, to take any part whatever in the meeting of the 26th of this month.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
(Signed) SHAFTESBURY.
G. Howells Davies, Esq.

This not very friendly correspondence indicates that there are still some left in the Church who value "spiritualities" above "temporalities," and that the Church Institution does not rest yet on a basis quite as broad as the Church itself. Did the committee, we should like to know, ask Mr. Maurice, Mr. Wilson, Dr. Temple, or Dr. Williams to speak?

The *Guardian* has also fallen foul of certain things in connexion with this society. Its article is, on the whole, eulogistic, approving of its scheme of united action, as well as of its purpose, and expressing the opinion that it is scarcely possible to overrate the good that may result from such meetings as it encourages. It insinuates, however, that skill and wisdom are required in its management; and that there is danger of formalism and red tape. It is not sure that life and energy are joined with machinery; there is a lack of the warmth and freedom of personal zeal, and as for its *Circular*, there is "nothing in it to stir affection or stimulate zeal." Is there no one, it asks, in the direction of the Institution who could write a monthly summary of Church history with life and vigour, or point out a course of action, or suggest a useful line of thought, in words which, coming fresh from heart and brain, strike and kindle the heart and brain of the reader? And then the *Liberator* is paid a compliment, which its editor must blush to read. A warning respecting future work follows:—

And they must not dream that an armistice is concluded because their antagonists have declared their intention of abstaining during the present session from renewing their attacks upon Church-rates. They are too watchful to forego the chance of any casual opportunities. The Attorney-General's measure for consolidating the Church-building Acts has already presented such an opportunity. The new districts which fall under its operation are to be robbed, if possible, of the privilege, which they enjoyed as component parts of their mother parish, of deciding for themselves by their own vote the question of a Church-rate. It is one of the many instances in which toleration is found practically to mean compulsion; but we mention it now only as an indication of the unceasing activity of the opponents of a Church Establishment, and of the perpetual necessity of supplying its defenders with the funds required for its defence. The fall of Dybbøl proclaims for all warfare the value of the newest and most scientific and therefore most costly artillery.

These are words for ourselves as well as Churchmen to weigh; but we are happy to see that the *Guardian* does anticipate the fall of the ecclesiastical Dybbøl.

No one will require his attention to be directed to the meeting of the London Missionary Society. Lord Ebury struck the key-note of this magnificent meeting, when he said, "The only question asked of men seeking to be sent out by the society as its agents was this, 'Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and confess him with your mouth as the Son of God who died to save mankind?' If," added the speaker, "he could have his own way, these would be the only terms of subscription that should exist." The report, long as it was, was listened to with unusual interest. It told first of deaths; then of income which amounted to 81,073*l.*; then of the multiplying fruit of Christianity in Polynesia, the West Indies, South Africa, China, India, Madagascar, and all the parts of the heathen world where the society has sent its agents. How pleasant it is to read, amongst other things in this, that the Robert Moffat whose name was in early life a Christian "household word" with so many now grown into manhood, or declining into age, "continues in his advancing years most abundant in labours." And with respect to its work the same may be said of the society. The speeches delivered we have given in another column.

The concluding Meetings of the Congregational Union on Friday were chiefly interesting from the

discussions on Evangelistic effort. The opinions expressed by Mr. Morley, Mr. Wilson, and others, contain, perhaps, that precise truth which is now needed to be expressed. There can be little doubt that if the cultivated, or even the uncultivated, Christian men and women belonging to the churches were to give themselves to Scripture-reading, class-leading, or visiting, or if they were to undertake any specific Evangelistic work, the heathen around us would have some prospect of being recovered. Those who endeavour to excite in others such a spirit of Christian enterprise deserve all our gratitude and thanks. We have said before that the single voice can never reach all ears, nor the single preacher all hearts.

It will be seen that our Edinburgh friends are again astir. There has been a two days' debate in the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church on "What is Voluntaryism?" It was conducted with remarkable ability, and indicated, we think, no falling off from the old testimony which Dr. John Brown delivered. It was followed by a breakfast, at which the Dissenters of Edinburgh were encouraged by the presence and speeches of well-known standard-bearers of the Churches inflexibly to maintain their position. We cannot reproduce the debates, but the following remarks of our able contemporary, the *Caledonian Mercury*, will enlighten the reader on the main points at issue in the interesting discussions which took place in the Synod:—

We may be permitted, before concluding this article, to glance briefly at the general course of the argument as it has been brought out and illustrated in this very interesting debate. The battle has raged most fiercely around the Civil Magistrate. The phrase is one of ill-omen in the history of the Church; and its frequent use in men's mouths during these discussions on union is, we fear, not likely to be conducive to peace. It is like the apple of discord thrown among the goddesses on Olympus. When it comes tumbling in among our divines it at once sets them by the ears; and we cannot but think that it is a pity the subject should ever need to be discussed at all in the Courts of a Dissenting Church. What adds to the disagreeableness of these discussions is the confusion of thought evident in many of the speeches as to the real points under debate. There have been the most elaborate and satisfactory arguments delivered in proof of what not a single member of the synod ever dreamed of denying. Mr. Marshall, for example, himself being judge, utterly demolished Dr. Davidson, and proved most satisfactorily that the magistrate ought to live and act in a Christian manner. Dr. Edmond did the same thing; and Mr. Towers went even farther, and proved the same thing to be true of the surgeon, the farmer, and the sexton. Now, it is hardly fair to those who hold the voluntary principle to represent them as denying this. As one of the speakers truly said, this is simply practical Christianity. The Christian man, whatever his station and work, be he magistrate, surgeon, farmer, or sexton, does his work as unto God. Christianity glorifies human life and work, and makes labour, the highest and the lowest alike, a part of a man's religion. Every Christian believes this, and surely some Voluntaries are Christians; therefore Voluntaryism does not imply the denial of it. What Voluntaryism demands of the civil magistrate is, not that he should not be a Christian but that, in his acting as a magistrate, he shall in no way interfere with Christianity. Voluntaryism has no objection to the magistrate holding any religious faith he pleases, but it objects most emphatically to his using his power, as a magistrate, to favour or to discourage any religion whatever. The Christian Voluntary (for Voluntaryism is not necessarily Christian—it may be infidel or anti-Christian) is as desirous as the Christian Churchman that the magistrate should be a Christian in his own life, and should rule like a Christian; and all the declamation of Dr. Marshall, Dr. Harper, Dr. Cairns, &c., on the monstrousness of cutting him off from Christian motives and principles is so much eloquence wasted. We really hope that in future discussions these stale refutations of a heresy which nobody holds will not be again brought up. Let the advocates of the doctrine that the civil magistrate, as a civil magistrate, may "further" religion, keep to the real point at issue. Let them, to make their meaning clear, drop the *man* altogether, and define the duties of his office; and it will then be seen what is the doctrine for which they are contending, and whether or not it is consistent with the principles of religious liberty. Voluntaries have hitherto held that any interference whatever, for or against, is injurious; and Mr. Renton was not, we think, going beyond the principles of his party when he asserted that the admissions in these Articles might afford a cover for any amount of Erastianism. Once admit the civil magistrate within the sphere of religion, and acknowledge his right to be there, and there is no knowing what mischief he may do. He has his own views of "furthering" religion; and, in carrying them out, he will be sure to go roughshod over the rights and conscientious convictions of at least some of his subjects. Every act of the State in reference to religion, in any condition of society short of the millenium, may be shown to be more or less an act of persecution. The existence of an Established Church is itself a standing persecution of Dissent.

PRESENTATION OF THE OXFORD DECLARATION.

On Thursday afternoon a large deputation of the clergy waited upon the Archbishop of Canterbury, at Lambeth Palace, to present the document which has become familiar to the public as the "Oxford Declaration."

The Archbishop entered the hall shortly after three o'clock, being accompanied by the Bishop of Carlisle, the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, the Bishop of St. Asaph, the Bishop of Bangor, the Bishop of Rochester, and the Bishop of Moray and Ross, the

Hon. and Rev. G. Bourke and the Rev. J. B. Hall, his Grace's chaplains, the Rev. W. Stubbs, the librarian, and Mr. Dunning, the secretary. Amongst the clergy who formed the deputation were the Dean of York, the Venerable E. C. Clarke, D.D., Archdeacon of Oxford; the Rev. R. L. Cotton, D.D., Provost of Worcester College, Oxford; Archdeacon Denison; the Rev. B. Casson, B.A. incumbent of St. George's, Battersea; the Rev. C. S. Oakley, M.A., rector of St. Paul's, Covent-garden; the Rev. R. H. Kellick, M.A., rector of St. Clement's Danes.

The Ven. Archdeacon CLERKE then came forward, and, addressing the Archbishop, said that every one present must be perfectly well acquainted with the object that had brought them together. He was, however, anxious to state that the meeting had been called simply through a feeling of anxiety which seemed to prevail in all parts of the kingdom. After paying a high compliment to the Archbishop for the course which he had taken in support of the interests of the Church, the Archdeacon said he would read the address which had been agreed upon, and then the Declaration, which had been signed by about 11,000 of the clergy, premising, however, that many others would have signed it had it not been for a matter of form. (It may be mentioned that one of the matters of form alluded to was raised by many of the High-Church party, who objected to sign because the word "presbyter" was used in the Declaration instead of "priest.") The address (to the Archbishop and Bishops) was then read.

The Archbishop and the Bishops rose, and the ARCHBISHOP spoke as follows:—My reverend brethren—We, the bishops of the United Church of England and Ireland, accept this Declaration as a renewed expression of your belief in those doctrines of the Church to which it refers. It is satisfactory to receive your assurance that there are some thousands of the clergy who, agreeing with you in the substance of the Declaration, hesitated to sign it only by reason of its form or circumstance. This assurance strengthens the conviction that the clergy of our Church will never be disposed to propagate opinions which tend to subvert the fundamental doctrines of Christianity. We, on our part, should ever feel it to be our duty to maintain the authoritative teaching of the Church, humbly trusting that we may receive guidance from above, and be endued with strength and wisdom to promote the glory of God and the welfare of His Church, through Jesus Christ our Lord. (Applause.)

After an interchange of civilities between the Archbishop, the Bishops, and the clergy the deputation withdrew.

UNIVERSITY REFORM.—Mr. Bouvier has fixed Tuesday, June 7, as the day on which he will move for leave to bring in a bill to relieve Fellows of Colleges from being required to make a declaration of uniformity under the Act of Uniformity.

THE FUTURE POPE.—A Vienna journal announces that the Abbé Lucien Bonaparte was to be raised to the dignity of cardinal in order that he might be properly qualified to be elected Sovereign Pontiff. The *Cologne Gazette* remarks that the three Catholic Powers have a right to protest against any nomination of the kind, and that a Pope can never be a relative of a reigning European dynasty.

CONSECRATION OF THREE BISHOPS.—It is said that the three new bishops—Dr. F. Jeune, Bishop-nominate of Lincoln; the Rev. C. H. Bromby, Bishop-designate of Tasmania; and the Rev. Samuel Crowther, who is to be appointed a missionary bishop for the Niger territory—will be consecrated by the Archbishop of Canterbury in Westminster Abbey on Wednesday, the 29th of June.

THE QUEEN OF MADAGASCAR AND THE CHRISTIANS.—On Christmas-day, seven or eight thousand of them (the native converts) after early religious services (to secure places at which some slept in the chapel the previous night), went in procession to the palace to pay their respects to the Queen. For nearly an hour her Majesty listened to the hymns sung by the choirs of the chapels, and expressed her satisfaction with the whole proceedings.—*Evangelical Christendom.*

THE EDINBURGH ANNUITY TAX.—On Wednesday last the goods of Mr. Adair, of the Dunedin Hotel, Edinburgh, were seized, amid the excitement of a monster crowd, estimated at many thousands, which filled the High-street. There was a strong detachment of police present, who with difficulty saved Caw, the auctioneer, and other officials, from maltreatment. The Lord Provost's carriage appearing, he was hooted and groaned at, and the vehicle was obliged to take another route.

AN EXCELLENT PRECEDENT.—The Rev. Samuel Crowther, who has been designated Bishop of the Niger Territory, is not to have the title of "Lord" Bishop, which is enjoyed by all other prelates of the Church of England at home and in the colonies, and he is to have no diocesan territory, but is simply to be a missionary bishop over his own countrymen. It appears that the new bishop was converted from heathenism by the Rev. J. W. Weeks, who was formerly a missionary in Africa, then incumbent of St. Thomas's, Lambeth, and afterwards Bishop of Sierra Leone.

WESLEYAN METHODISM.—The Rev. John Bowers will retire from the governorship of the Wesleyan Didsbury College next conference, to be succeeded by the Rev. W. Jackson, son-in-law of Dr. Dixon. Dr. Hannah's retirement from the theological chair is uncertain; the Rev. G. T. Perks will probably be Dr. Hannah's successor. The presidency for the approaching conference will fall to the Rev. W. L. Thornton, if he is back in time from America, and

failing Mr. Thornton, the Rev. W. Shaw stands next on the list. For the next three conferences the three following gentlemen will certainly be presidents:—W. L. Thornton, W. Shaw, and the Rev. G. Scott, of the Swedish mission. In the year 1867, the Rev. W. M. Panshon is very likely to take the chair, and he will be the youngest man, except Dr. Bunting, who has ever held the highest office in Methodism.—*Birmingham Paper.*

THE CALVINISTIC METHODISTS held a general assembly (the first of the kind) at Swansea, last week, at which were present delegates from the different counties of North and South Wales, the English Presbyteries, Liverpool and London. The Rev. Henry Rees, of Liverpool, was moderator. In the course of the proceedings, it was decided to bring out a series of Welsh books under the editorship of the Rev. John Hughes, of Liverpool, and also to re-publish a series of Welsh books under the editorship of the Rev. Dr. Edwards, of Bala, such publication to be under the direction of the assembly. Many sermons were preached, and public meetings held during the week in connection with the conference, which was altogether very successful. Next year's meeting is to be at Liverpool.

THE PERSECUTION OF EDINBURGH DISSENTERS.—On Friday morning a breakfast of Dissenters was held in Upper Queen-street Hall, Edinburgh, for the purpose of discussing questions affecting the interests of Dissenters, and chiefly in reference to the persecutions now going on in Edinburgh. There was a large and enthusiastic attendance. Ex-Bailie Stott occupied the chair; and among those present were the Rev. Drs. George Johnston; Wm. Johnston, of Limekilns; Jos. Brown, Glasgow; and Bryce, Belfast; Rev. Messrs. Renton, Kelso; Jas. Rennie, Dalkeith; J. W. Mailler, Huntly; Kerr, Dunse; Stirling, Kilmuir; Martin, Lochmaben; Thomson, Haddington; Orr, Renwick; Sorely, Arbroath; White, Moyness; ex-Bailie Fyfe; Councillor David Lewis, and Councillor J. Lewis; and J. Douglas, Esq., of Cavers. The several speakers, mostly from other places than Edinburgh, expressed strong sympathy with the victims of the clerico-police-tax, and exhorted persevering passive resistance. Mr. Douglas, of Cavers, was amongst those who bore testimony to the injustice of the exaction; and it was suggested that an extensive association, with ample funds, should be started to assist and indemnify the victims of the annuity-tax.

Religious Intelligence.

ROMFORD.—The Rev. Frederick Sweet, of New College, has accepted the pastorate of the Congregational church, Romford, Essex.

ROSS, HEREFORDSHIRE.—The Rev. John R. S. Harington (late of Bristol College) has resigned the pastorate of the Baptist church in this town, and intends to become a Congregational minister.

STOCKPORT.—The Rev. Alexander Wilson, B.A., of Spring-hill College and London University, has accepted a unanimous invitation to the pastorate of the church and congregation worshipping in Hanover Chapel, Stockport.

DOWLAIS—PRESENTATION TO THE REV. J. HUGHES.—On Tuesday evening, April 25th, a very interesting meeting was held at Bethania Chapel, Dowlais, to present the Rev. John Hughes with an address and a purse of 100 guineas, on the completion of thirty years of ministerial labour at Bethania, and his retirement from active duties. There were present from thirty to forty ministers and many laymen of various denominations.

FINCHLEY—CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL.—The Rev. S. Wardlaw McAll, M.A., having recently entered upon the pastorate of the church assembling at this place of worship, a recognition service was held in the chapel on Thursday, May 5th, when addresses were delivered by the Rev. C. R. Howell, of Colney Hatch, and the Rev. Josiah Viney, of Highgate. The Rev. John Corbin, of Hornsey; the Rev. Samuel McAll, President of Hackney College; the Rev. J. S. Wardlaw, M.A., President of the Missionary College, Highgate; and the Rev. W. L. Brown, M.A., of Totteridge, conducted the devotional parts of the service.

AXMOUTH, DEVONSHIRE.—About four miles from Lyme Regis, Dorset, and opposite the pleasant watering-place of Seaton, on the river Axe, lies the picturesque village of Axmouth. Though so beautifully resting in a lonely valley, this place has been for many years far behind most of our villages in spiritual privileges. On the afternoon of Tuesday, the 19th of April, however, the foundation-stone of a United Dissenting Chapel was laid by H. O. Wills, Esq., of Bristol. There was a pleasant gathering at the tea, after which the neighbouring Dissenting ministers gave addresses. The chapel is intended to be opened early in August, and about 170l. now are required to meet the cost of the erection.

GENERAL BAPTIST CHAPEL, LOUTH, LINCOLNSHIRE.—The church and congregation gathered under the ministry of the late Rev. J. Kiddall, and who have hitherto worshipped in a rented chapel in Walker-gate, opened their new and very comfortable place of worship on Thursday, April 21. The Rev. W. Brock, of London, preached an eloquent sermon in the morning from Matt. xxvi. 7. The afternoon service was conducted by the Rev. R. Ingham, of Vale, near Todmorden. There was subsequently a cold collation and tea-meeting, the latter attended by some 400 persons, and presided over by John Crossley, Esq., of Halifax. The meeting was afterwards addressed by the Revs.

W. Herbert, W. Orton, R. Ingham, H. Richardson, W. T. Symonds, G. Shaw, J. Taylor, and Mr. W. Newman. On the following two Sundays there were special services. The total proceeds of opening services, including bazaar, &c., will be nearly 400l. This, with 650l. previously obtained, will leave the church in as easy a position as it was in occupying a rented chapel.

NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, GLASGOW.—The ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of Trinity Congregational Church, which is at present in course of erection in Claremont-street, for the congregation at present worshipping in the Queen's Rooms, under the pastorate of the Rev. William Pulsford, took place on Thursday afternoon week in presence of a large assemblage of the members of the church, the ministers and members of the Congregational denomination, and the public generally. The ceremony was performed by H. Watt, Esq., and the Rev. Dr. Alexander, of Edinburgh, and Mr. Pulsford took part in the service. The new place of worship is to provide accommodation for 950 persons, and will have a handsome spire, 200 feet high. It will cost about 7,000l., of which 4,000l. has been subscribed, and it is expected that the church will be opened free of debt.

CORNWALL.—A new Independent chapel was opened at the village of Gorranhaven, near Mevagissey, Cornwall, on Thursday last, the 5th inst. There was a sermon preached in the afternoon by the Rev. G. Orme, of Portsoatha. A public tea followed, and in the evening a public meeting, Edward Moore, Esq., of Trevaes, presiding. The meeting was addressed by the Rev. Messrs. Orme and Young, and Mr. W. Duncalf, of Mevagissey. The meetings were crowded, and before the close of the evening service it was announced that the total cost of the chapel and school-room, amounting to 2277. 11s. 8d., was entirely raised, and the place declared open and free of debt, 81l. being given on the opening day. Gorranhaven is a small fishing village containing about 850 inhabitants, and it is considered in the neighbourhood a wonderful proof of the efficacy of the voluntary principle in the fact that a few poor men first helping themselves and then looking to others for help, have been enabled thus to rear a sanctuary and open it under such circumstances. A Church-rate has lately been refused in the parish, and at the opening of the chapel the circumstance was referred to, and the superiority of willing to forced contributions shown as proved by the results.

NEWMARKET.—The new Congregational chapel erected on the site and with the materials of King Charles II.'s palace in this town was opened on Thursday, May 5th, by the Rev. Newman Hall, who preached an impressive sermon from Luke xlii. 42, 43. In the afternoon the Rev. W. Outhberton, of Bishop's Stortford, occupied the pulpit, and in the evening a public meeting was held in the chapel, which, as in the morning and afternoon, was filled to the aisles. Edward Ball, Esq. (who has rendered the most essential service to this undertaking) occupied the chair, in the absence of James Spicer, Esq., who was detained at home by severe indisposition. The Rev. J. De Kewer Williams (who represented the English Congregational Chapel-building Society), the Revs. William Robinson, T. Anthony, and E. G. Cecil, also M. Prentice, Esq., took part in the proceedings. In the course of the evening donations were announced from James Spicer, Esq., 25l.; and from Thomas Cook, Esq., 10l. Miss Piper, of Cambridge, gave a sixth donation—50l.—making her total contribution 400l. The evening collection made the amount received in this way exceed 68l., and the chairman then announced that the entire amount required—2,870l.—was now raised, with some surplus, and the doxology was sung with great feeling. On the following Sabbath the Rev. E. Jones, of Ipswich, preached to crowded congregations, who had been invited to hear the Word of Life without collections. Altogether this enterprise has been favoured with a more prosperous career than its energetic promoters could ever have believed to be possible.

Correspondence.

CHURCH-RATES IN NEW PARISHES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—As the Attorney-General is on Friday to move the second reading of the Church-Building Acts Consolidation Bill, and it is already known that he will announce his intention to propose a modification of the measure, it is desirable that the public should distinctly understand the facts with which the learned gentleman has to deal, and should be prepared to resist any attempt on the part of the Government to evade the duty which those facts clearly impose upon it.

It will be remembered that Sir Roundell Palmer has not proposed, in so many words, to give to new parishes the power of levying Church-rates; but that he has taken the substance of certain clauses in existing statutes which, according to the opinions of eminent counsel, involve such power. He has also retained the very words—"for all ecclesiastical purposes"—which the Dean of the Arches expressly says include Church-rates.

Convinced, it may be presumed, of the impropriety of asking Parliament deliberately to re-enact provisions which appear to admit of the doing of the very thing which Parliament has declared it did not intend to be done, the Attorney-General, it is now understood, will propose to omit the 95th clause of the bill, and any others which may touch the Church-rate question. But

then he will do this with the express purpose of leaving the law in its present ambiguous state, and in order to throw the onus of introducing what he terms "controversial matter" on those who are dissatisfied with the law as it now stands on the statute-book.

Your readers may judge what is the state of things the Attorney-General wishes to perpetuate from an extract from a pamphlet, issued when this Consolidation Bill was in prospect, by Mr. Dale, a barrister, an active member of the Church Institution, and the secretary to "The Association of Incumbents of New Parishes and Ecclesiastical Districts." Notwithstanding that, when Lord Blandford's Act was brought in, the Home Secretary expressly stated that the author of the measure "did not ask for any money from the public, nor to create a power to deal with any property not the property of the Church," Mr. Dale has the boldness to say:—

Upon this point (Church-rates) Lord Blandford's Act was intended to be sufficiently clear and strong. It was thereby (sect. 14 and 15) intended that all "new parishes" should be entitled to levy their own Church-rate as "parishes," and be free, as "separate and distinct parishes," from any "liability" to the rate for the repair of the mother Church. Doubts have, however, in many and in high quarters—(although not as yet in any court of law)—been expressed upon this point. I know that, in many instances, new parishes have carried their own Church-rate, and have established their emancipation from the mother parish rate; but in many other cases the legal doubts above referred to have prevented this being done. I know, too, that in other cases the new parishes have carried their own rate, although the mother parish was previously unable to do so; whilst in other places, where no rate could, previously to the complete subdivision of the original parish, be carried, subsequently to such subdivision both the new parish and the remainder of the mother parish have carried their several separate Church-rates. If the law were clear this would much more frequently occur. Clear, I mean, as to the right of the new parish to levy its own rate, if it can command a majority in its vestry.

Sir Roundell Palmer will not venture to make the law clear in Mr. Dale's sense; but he wishes to do what is the next best thing for the cause which he and Mr. Dale alike espouse—he wishes to leave the law in so doubtful a state that, wherever a minority is too weak to litigate the question, the majority may make Church-rates with impunity. He wants to improve the Church-Building Acts for Churchmen, but to leave them without improvement for Dissenters. He avails himself of his position in the Government to help the Establishment; while he tells Church-rate abolitionists they must take care of themselves.

In view of the approaching discussion, it is instructive to notice the attitude assumed by such of the Establishment journals as have yet thought it prudent to speak on this important question.

The *Guardian* refers to the effort to obtain an alteration in the bill merely as an opportunity for renewing their attack on Church-rates, of which abolitionists have, with characteristic watchfulness, availed themselves. The new districts which fall under the operation of the Church Building Acts "are to be robbed, if possible, of the privilege which they enjoyed, as component parts of their mother parish, of deciding for themselves by their own vote the question of a Church-rate. It is one of the many instances in which toleration is found practically to mean compulsion." So that to prevent district Churchmen exercising a right which Parliament plainly declared they were not to possess, is declared to be a robbery, and it is Churchmen, and not Dissenters, who are threatened with injustice!

The *Clerical Journal* assumes the same air of injured innocence, and in the same way utterly ignores the Parliamentary undertaking on which the Church Building Acts were passed:—

It is a most unreasonable conclusion, that because districts not separated from the mother church could not lay a rate, that they are not to have the power to do so when made independent parishes. Why should the present law of the land be inapplicable to them, more than to all other parishes which have the power of taxing themselves for Church purposes? We hope the good sense of the House of Commons will refuse to listen to these factious objections.

There is probably no utility in answering the questions of a writer who will attach the epithet "factious" to any reply which may be given; else some weighty reasons might be urged why the law now operative in the old parishes should not be applicable to the new. I cite these passages chiefly to show that if the supporters of Church-rates can, with the aid of the Attorney-General of a Liberal Government, secure the extension of the exaction, they will certainly do it—do it whatever injustice it may involve, and however much it may multiply evils the existence of which they have professed to deplore. The Abolitionists have to look to themselves alone for protection, and the sooner they prepare to act on the defensive the better.

Your obedient servant,

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS.

London, May 16, 1864.

THE LIBERATION SOCIETY AND THE STATE CHURCH.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

SIR,—Having been by some friendly, but unknown hand, favoured with a copy of your paper, I take the liberty (which for the sake of free discussion I trust you will excuse) of making some remarks on the proceedings of the Liberation Society as reported in your columns. In the first place I must indicate in some degree the

position of your correspondent, so as to free his remarks from any imputation of interested motives. He is a clergyman, who has resigned one preferment in the Established Church and refused another, and who trusts to be enabled to decline any further offer or opening of the kind under the present circumstances of clerical conformity.

Though sympathising in some degree with the objects of the Liberation Society, I cannot but think that half of its purpose is a mistake, and half of its name a misnomer. To "liberate from support" is not English. But lest this should seem a captious objection, let me ask what is the "state support" received by the Church of England? If it be Church-rates only, I will acknowledge that the Church is so far supported by the State; but to abolish these alone would be rather a narrow aim for a society with so ambitious a name. If it be the lands, rent-charges, and houses in the hands of the clergy, I deny that these can be correctly called "state support." They were given to a great extent by private donors; but as many endowments have been made to Dissenting, or (for I like the term better) Nonconformist communities, and though the operation of the common law of tithe may have conveyed a considerable proportion of the tithe to the Church, yet this tithe was a gift no less than what was given by private benefactors—a gift, to divert which to secular purposes would be robbery and sacrilege, whatever reasonable meaning be attached to those words, and whether the tithe so diverted were put into the pockets of the landholders, or thrown into the Consolidated Fund. In fact, so far as the tithe is concerned, the Church has been to some extent endowed by the State in former times; but it cannot, therefore, be said to "be supported" by the State in these days, any more than the endowed grammar-schools of England can be said to be supported by the representatives of the original founders and benefactors.

I observe, however, some discrepancy in the objects which different members of the Liberation Society avow, some disclaiming any intention of alienating the endowments of the Church to secular purposes. What then would they do with them? Distribute them among all existing denominations in proportion to their respective numbers? I do not deny the equitability of such an arrangement, whatever may be its feasibility, with Romanists, Mormonites, and Jews, all claiming their rateable shares in the prize! But this arrangement would not be "liberating religion from State support" in the intended sense of the terms. It would be "redistributing Church property."

But let me suggest what appears to myself "a more excellent way"—a better aim for one-half of the society's exertions. Why will it not join with a large body of Churchmen in striving to alter the formularies and subscriptions of the Church, and to improve its polity and discipline, so that all orthodox Nonconformists might be able to enter its pale; their well-qualified ministers to enter its pulpits, and their laity its fold? The existing chapels of these denominations might in this case, by equitable terms of coalition, be brought into union with the Established Church. This would be a truly catholic proceeding—this would hold out the promise of something like the great blessing of national religious unity, and would enable the defenders of the common faith to oppose a more united front to its numerous and pertinacious foes.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

AN EX-INCUMBENT.

THE GREAT NEED OF THE GOSPEL IN ESSEX AND SUFFOLK.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

SIR,—The annual meeting of the "Essex Home Missionary Society" was held at Woodford on the 2nd inst., when J. F. Butler, Esq., of Childerditch, stated, "Within fourteen miles from his own door there were fifty-three villages which had no Gospel preached in them." In the last half of the nineteenth century, what a sad and sickening statement! How desirable that Mr. Butler, through your columns, should give the names of the villages and the statistics of the population! There are manifestly numbers of persons who will endeavour to occupy ground where for years strenuous efforts have been, and are now being, made to enlighten the masses, improve their morals, and lead them to Christ. But these parties cannot bear to settle upon those spots where moral darkness reigns supreme; they cannot endure the labour of breaking up fallow ground, and first casting the seed into the soil of the human heart, and waiting for the harvest. No, they must go to gather the fruits of other men's labours, anxieties, and prayers, and then exclaim, "See what we have wrought!" Protestantism is their object, breaking in upon the peace and prosperity of other communities their aim. Would it not be more commendable if such persons were to enter dark localities and preach the Gospel where the truth is now unheard?

I am, Sir, yours, &c.

May 10, 1864.

ESSEX.

DRINKING FOUNTAINS.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

SIR,—In anticipation of the approaching hot summer days, the Committee of the Metropolitan Fountain Association beg to inform the public that funds are urgently needed to enable the society to continue those exertions which have hitherto been attended with such great success. Through the instrumentality of this association upwards of eighty fountains have been already erected, at which it is computed not less than a quarter of a million people drink daily during the heat of the year. It is the desire of the society to extend the boon as far as possible to every corner of the metropolis, so that the thirsty wayfarer may not be forced into the necessity of repairing to the public-house. The committee are overwhelmed with applications for new fountains, but are unable to erect fresh ones from want of funds; and for the same reason the provision made for the relief of the sufferings of cattle and dogs from thirst falls short of what is required. All the fountains of the association are under constant supervision, and qualified workmen are employed to keep them in an efficient state; but several of those erected by private benevolence have become dilapidated and even dry. If the public will afford the means, the committee propose offering to undertake the superintendence of all the fountains in London, and thereby to secure for each the necessary attention. I shall be happy to receive con-

tributions in aid of these objects, or subscriptions may be paid at the office of the association, 1, Shorter's-court, Throgmorton-street, E.C., where any further information may be obtained.—I have the honour to be, Sir, yours faithfully,

SAMUEL GURNEY, Chairman.

25, Princes-gate, S.W., May 16, 1864.

"BETTER DAYS FOR WORKING PEOPLE."

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

DEAR SIR,—A book under this title, published at 1s. 6d., prompting to self-help, has, during six months, reached a circulation of 50,000 copies. A gentleman in Scotland offered lately to reduce its cost, if taken in quantities, to 7d. a copy, till the middle of May, to persons who would sell it to working people at 6d., and give the other 1d. a copy themselves. This gentleman has just offered to do this till the 31st of May through myself, in England. As I am answerable for as many sevenpences as I obtain copies of the publishers, I beg respectfully to state that I will order parcels from Strahan's, 32, Ludgate-hill, to addresses sent with post-office orders for amount enclosed, at 7d. a copy, till May 31st—parties bearing cost of carriage themselves.

Yours, &c.,

JOHN ROSS.

Tryons-place, Hackney, London, N.E.

Anniversaries.

THE CONGREGATIONAL UNION.

The second sitting of the Congregational Union for 1864 took place at the Poultry Chapel on Friday. There was again a good attendance of ministers and delegates, though not so numerous as on the first day. The chair was again occupied by the president, the Rev. H. Allon.

After a hymn had been sung and a chapter had been read from the Bible, the Rev. Professor NEWTH led the devotions of the assembly.

VISITORS.

The CHAIRMAN having called attention to the nature of the business which was to be brought forward,

Dr. SMITH introduced the Rev. Pasteur Fisch, of Paris, President of the Evangelical Union of the Free Churches of France. The Rev. R. Sewell, of Londonderry, was subsequently introduced as a delegate from the Congregational Union of Ireland.

The Rev. Pasteur FISCH said that he remembered attending a delightful meeting of the Congregational Union in 1855, as representative of the Evangelical Union of Lyons. He now appeared as the messenger of a larger body, in the name of which he prayed that the most abundant blessings might descend on the assembly. The Evangelical Union of France was based upon the same footing as the Congregational Union—strong union and yet perfect liberty. He had also a message of kindness to deliver to the Congregational churches from the churches represented by the Evangelical Continental Society, for the material help which they had received from that society.

PRESIDENT FOR 1865.

The Rev. S. M'ALL moved that the Rev. D. Thomas, B.A., of Bristol, be elected to the chairmanship of the Union for 1865. The Rev. J. KENNEDY seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

AUTUMNAL MEETING.

The Rev. P. THOMSON moved a resolution accepting the invitation of the pastors and churches of Hull for the assembly to hold its next autumnal meeting in that town. Dr. REES, of Swansea, seconded the motion, which was agreed to. The Rev. P. SIBREE, of Hull, assured the assembly that they would meet with a hearty welcome.

CONSTITUTION OF THE UNION.

The Rev. R. ASHTON moved:—

That the following resolution, adopted unanimously by the preliminary meeting on Monday evening last, be approved and confirmed by this assembly, namely, "That a sub-committee be formed to consider whether any and what alterations may be desirable in the mode of conducting the proceedings of the annual and autumnal meetings of the Union, and to report thereon at the autumnal meeting in October next; and further that the recommendation of the said meeting to consider whether any and what amendment may be desirable in the constitution and laws of the Union be referred to the same committee to report thereon also in October next."

The alterations supposed to be desirable related chiefly to the extension of membership and defining the privileges of membership. Hitherto it had been restricted to churches as such, and to ministers and officers of such churches. It was thought desirable to allow members of churches in their individual capacity to become members of the Union, and at the same time to adopt a rule that none but those who were members should have a right to take part in the proceedings unless they were expressly invited to do so by the chairman.

The Rev. T. JAMES seconded the motion, which was agreed to, and a sub-committee, consisting of the Rev. Messrs. Binney, N. Hall, A. Raleigh, J. Kennedy, T. James, Dr. Vaughan, E. Mellor, and several other gentlemen, ministerial and lay, was appointed.

LETTER FROM THE REV. J. C. HARRISON.

Dr. SMITH read the following communication from the Rev. J. C. Harrison:—

Dear Brethren,—Though you have already been made aware of my inability to discharge the duties to which you so generously called me at your last annual meeting, I feel it is due to express my sincere thanks for the honour you intended me, and my deep regret that I should be compelled to draw back from my engagement to act as your chairman. But it has pleased our gracious Master that this office should devolve on another, and to His will I desire submissively and even cheerfully to bow,

for I trust I have learnt that His will is always best. And in the present instance I can the more easily acquiesce because my place will be filled by a brother universally respected and beloved, one who will meet with a not less hearty welcome than I should have done, and will far more than make up for my "lack of service."

My absence to-day is a matter of necessity. I was in the middle of January suddenly seized with alarming faintness and sickness, arising from entire exhaustion of nervous energy; and even now I have only very partially regained my accustomed strength. I am still quite unequal to even the simplest public service, and fear that many weeks must elapse before I can resume that work which for three-and-twenty years has been the occupation and joy of my life. I can, therefore, only, in my solitude, pray that the Spirit of Christ may be with you to impart wisdom, unity, and love, that so your present meetings may be memorable, even among the many memorable ones you have already enjoyed, and that you may return to your homes refreshed in spirit and laden with blessing. To labour with new zest and usefulness in the vineyard of the Lord.

And, dear brethren, let me ask you to pray for me, that I may patiently bear my Heavenly Father's will, may learn all that He intended to teach me in this affliction, and in due time, if it be His gracious pleasure, may join you once more in the blessed work of "winning souls."—Ever yours, dear brethren, with much affection,
J. C. HARRISON.

24, Queen's-road, Regent's-park,
May 9, 1864.

A resolution was passed directing the secretary to acknowledge the receipt of the communication, and to convey to Mr. Harrison the sincere wishes of the Union, that it might please the Almighty speedily to restore him to health.

THE SCOTTISH UNION.

The Rev. SAMUEL MARTIN, who had been delegated to attend the annual meetings of the Congregational Union of Scotland, just held in Glasgow and Edinburgh, gave an account of his visit, specifying each service. The annual report, he remarked, expressed a growing sense of the value of the Union, showed that a wide door and effectual for evangelistic effort was open, and that a revival which took place in Shetland some two years since has brought forth most blessed fruit. This Union, which is of the nature of an English county association, aids, by money grants, needy churches, and in the membership of eighty churches thus aided there has been a clear increase in the year of 477 members. Having enumerated all the meetings and the nature of the proceedings at each, Mr. Martin concluded by saying:—

Your representative found himself at Glasgow without instructions, and without a message to be delivered in your name, but he offered your Christian salutations, and assured the brethren of your sympathy and love. It appears desirable that your delegate should be the bearer of some distinct message to be delivered in your name, instead of being left to his own thoughts and utterances, or obliged to content himself with saying, "The Churches of Christ, which we represent, salute you." So far as we could learn, the churches of the Scottish Union "have rest and are edified, and walking in the fear of God, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, are multiplied." The shadow of Presbyterianism is not favourable to the growth of Independency; but as witnessing to purity of communion, our section of the Church reminded me of the few names in Sardis, of whom it was said, "They have not defiled their garments, and they shall walk with me in white, for they are worthy." "He that overcometh shall be clothed in white raiment, and I will not blot out his name out of the Book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels." (Cheers.) The pastors also appear to be highly esteemed in love for their work's sake—the young men showing themselves patterns of good works, in doctrine, uncorruptness, gravity, and sincerity, the older men flourishing as the palm tree, and growing as cedars in Lebanon. Most devoutly do we wish that the two Unions could occasionally meet. (Cheers.) The formation of a Union for Great Britain and Ireland is perhaps impossible, but occasional meetings of the Union of England and Wales, Scotland and Ireland, are surely within reach. (Hear, hear.) To bring the Union of Scotland and England closer would be like girdling the southern valleys with the northern mountains, filling the hollow places of the south with the waters of the northern lakes, carrying along our waysides the northern burns and rivers—freshening the dull small wind with the brisk northern breeze, sharpening the soft voices of the south with the keener notes of the north, and throwing some more masculine lines into the expression of the southern face. In a paradise there would be Scotland and England. (Cheers.) In a perfect atmosphere there will be the north wind and the south wind. In full harmony there will be notes soft as zephyrs and sharp as winter winds. In a perfect countenance the tender and the strong must combine; our religious individualities may be modified and supplemented by more fellowship with our brethren in the north. (Cheers.) Having rendered the service for which I was sent, and being much refreshed in spirit by intercourse with the pastors and brethren of the churches in the Union, I felt I had no more place in those parts, and gladly turned my face in a direction where, as in dissolving views, London supplanted Glasgow, and Westminster Edinburgh, and the Church I delight to serve, the Church in whose midst I had stood as a visitor. "England, with all thy faults I love thee still." (Cheers.) Yet, looking back across the border, we lovingly say—Peace be to the brethren, and love with faith from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace be with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. (Cheers.)

THE CALVIN TERCENTENARY.

The Rev. A. THOMSON, of Manchester, read a portion of an elaborate and highly-interesting paper on the above subject. It is impossible in a brief report to give anything like an abstract of this document.

In the course of some remarks on the subject, Dr. HALLEY said he was not there to vindicate Calvin for the part he took in the death of Servetus. He believed, however, that a great deal had been said about him which was not true, and some

of Calvin's defenders had done more harm to his reputation than his assailants. It was not Calvin's doing that Servetus was burnt; and as to the other reformers, was there ever a more gentle man living than Melancthon? and yet it was known that he concurred in his death. They must not libel Calvin for not being in all respects before the spirit of his age; all that could be said was that Calvin was not wiser or better in that instance than the wisest and best men of his time. The Independents, as a body, had remained steadfast to the theology of Calvin—not to the Calvinism of Jonathan Edwards. He hoped they would continue to do so, and would not be behind others in planting a few flowers on his grave.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. F. WATTS, and unanimously adopted.

STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

Mr. S. MORLEY said he had consented to say a few words on this subject, in the hope of drawing a few expressions of opinion from other friends.

He believed that the question with which the churches had to do was less that of external organisation for evangelising the country than that of the spiritual life of the respective churches who had to do the work. The General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland recommended all ministers, whose churches were within reach of an outlying population, to form a general agency with a view to calling out the voluntary labours of the people in the way of visitation or other effort. He was quite prepared to say that a more blessed agency was never introduced into the churches than that which was understood by the term "evangelist." The men who had hitherto been appointed were achieving an undoubted success in their respective districts. He wished, however, to press this fact more distinctly upon the churches, that the private members themselves were waiting to be called into action. He was more anxious about the secession of the young of their respective families to the Establishment than even about the secession of some of their ministers. He believed that that resulted from the fact that so little was said about the distinctive principles of the denomination. He believed that those principles were to be drawn from the New Testament, and that a reference to them was never out of place on the Lord's day. The young people, however, would be more likely to be kept in the denomination if they could be brought into the habit of working for Christ. The Free Church of Scotland had woke up to the desirableness of making more effort to accomplish this, and had stated that at present only one in six of the private members of the churches were actively employed in the work of the Lord. He was convinced that the true secret of their comparative want of success in their aggressive efforts lay in that subject. There were thousands of professing Christians—persons living easy, respectable lives—between whom and men of the world a line of demarcation could hardly be drawn. Thousands upon thousands in London were passing away continually from time to eternity, no man caring for their souls, just for want of some such voluntary agency as he had been describing. The ministers and officials could not possibly engage in the work to any great extent, and it was no reflection on them to say that the work was not being done. He was sure, however, that a vast amount of personal service was waiting to be called out, such as the country had never before witnessed. He was glad that even Calvin had been put on one side for a few moments, so that an opportunity might be afforded for a little free discussion on this subject. The ministers could not feel satisfied with the present position of our churches. He was perfectly unconscious of any feeling of censoriousness; he had, however, a deep feeling of the importance of the mission that lay before them as a Christian people, and he hoped that, as a denomination, they would take their full share in the work. It was not a question of raising two or three times the present amount; it was that of enlisting the affection and the service of earnest men and women, and of creating a deep and abiding sense of the extreme responsibility which attaches to the profession of religion. If the church-members all over the country were stirred up to earnest and thoughtful labour, and if the ministers themselves led the enterprise, so that the whole thing could be done in an harmonious spirit, depend upon it we should see such a revival among the churches of the body as would make them doubly a blessing in the land in which they lived. (Cheers.)

The Rev. Dr. VAUGHAN said that some of the brethren were at the Home Missionary meeting when their zealous friend, the Rev. Thomas Jones, was giving some account of how Wales had come to be evangelised. Mr. Jones said that lay-preaching was undoubtedly sometimes very good, but that Wales had been evangelised by its best men—that the men who had caused religious truth to take hold of the intelligence of the Principality were their most gifted and cultivated men and most effective preachers, who were at the same time evangelists, nearly all of them travelling over the country during a portion of the year. He (Dr. Vaughan) believed they would never do more than a tenth part of the work until the pastors combined the duties of evangelists with their pastorate. At present, when a man could preach well he was buried in a particular church and congregation all his days, and it was difficult to get his services anywhere else, except in large towns and cities, on grand occasions, when he might be done without. What they needed was to have a few more ministers of popular powers and warm hearts, who would make themselves heard, not merely in the first-class pulpits, but in the villages and hamlets. He would say to Mr. Morley, have all the subordinate agency that you have, but do not depend upon that kind of agency only: have a higher and more potent element along with it. Let the ministry be at the head of the movement in the sight of the entire community, and the measure in which that could be done would be the measure in which the movement would become a power in the land. The pastors of every county ought to look upon the county as their pastorate, having seasons in which they would visit and encourage their brethren in the rural districts.

The Rev. J. H. WILSON said that the Home Missionary Society had been endeavouring to act upon the very principle laid down by Dr. Vaughan, being convinced that till they could get first-class men to go forth, especially in the summer season, to co-operate in the work, they would never succeed in accomplishing what they had in view. Last year the Rev. Mr. Grigsby, of the Tabernacle, had spent a month in Devonshire; a number of meetings had been held of a very encouraging character, and very blessed results had ensued. The Rev. W. Roaf had also been engaged in the same manner. They wished to induce other ministers to give up a portion of their time, and the society would be happy to defray the expense of supplying their own pulpits if they would go out into the country and take their holiday in that direction. They hoped, however, that before long they might have an agency exclusively adapted to the work. In the present day there was the most urgent necessity for evangelistic agency. It was desirable that the county associations should unite in the work. The best plan was to group four or five villages together, with a minister in the centre and lay evangelists to aid him. To this might be added all the voluntary assistance that could be obtained from the churches. What was most needed, however, was the baptism of the Holy Ghost. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. Dr. SPENCE thought the meeting would go away with a wrong impression if they thought that the members of the churches were idle. He knew churches in London where one in every five was actively engaged. No doubt there was still a large amount of work to be called forth.

Mr. MORLEY said he should be sorry if that impression were entertained. There was still, however, very large scope for pressing this matter upon the churches. He accepted Dr. Vaughan's suggestion to the very letter. It would produce the happiest effects if there were to be a regular visitation of pastors to the churches in rural districts, strengthening the hands of devoted men who were labouring amid many discouragements. He recommended ministers to call their churches together and to urge this point upon their consideration.

The Rev. J. KENNEDY said they might assent to every word uttered by Dr. Vaughan as to the popular preachers, but there were districts in the east of London where thousands upon thousands would remain ignorant of any such minister coming to preach in the neighbourhood; and there was no means of reaching such people but by domiciliary visitation. It was most desirable that the churches should be called together from time to time to review their position, and that every church-member should use his utmost influence in his own sphere to bring men to Christ, or, at any rate, to bring them within the sound of Gospel preaching.

VOTE OF THANKS.

On the motion of the Rev. A. M. HENDERSON, seconded by the Rev. T. BINNEY, a vote of thanks was passed to the Rev. Dr. Spence and the deacons of Poultry Chapel for the accommodation they had given to the assembly of the Union.

Dr. SPENCE briefly acknowledged the vote, and the proceedings then terminated.

THE DINNER.

The members dined together, as on Tuesday, at the Bridge-house Hotel, where the arrangements were excellently carried out. After dinner the usual loyal toasts were given, and subsequently the following sentiments were proposed:—"The Evangelical Churches of France," responded to by Pasteur Fisch; "The Irish Congregational Union," responded to by the Rev. R. Sewell; "Canada," responded to by the Rev. Mr. Clarke, of Toronto. The cordial thanks of the assembly were then given to the Rev. J. Varty and the other stewards, and the proceedings closed with the usual vote of thanks to the president.

On Saturday morning a number of the ministers who had attended the meetings of the Union, and friends of other denominations, were invited by the Chairman of the Union to breakfast in the spacious schoolroom in the rear of Union Chapel, Islington, of which Mr. Allon is the pastor. The rooms were tastefully decorated, and an excellent repast had been prepared, of which more than 200 persons partook. Mr. Allon afterwards called upon various ministers briefly to address the meeting, and a great part of the morning was thus very pleasantly occupied. At noon the company adjourned to the chapel, the galleries of which were occupied by ladies, and then engaged in a service of song which Mr. Allon had arranged for the occasion. A number of hymns and chants were sung to some of the finest congregational music, and the whole service was felt to be exceedingly delightful and profitable.

COLONIAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this society was held at Poultry Chapel, on Monday evening last, James Spicer, Esq., in the chair. Among those present were the Revs. T. Binney, A. Raleigh, H. Allon, W. Tomkin, E. Mannering, W. Cuthbertson, M.A., J. L. Poore (from Melbourne), R. W. Dale, M.A., R. Ashton, John Gibson (New South Wales), H. Bromley, W. Tarbotton, W. Clarke (Canada), and Messrs. F. S. Sargood, J. Trueman, J. Broomhall, T. C. Devitt, R. Mullens, F. Allport, &c. &c.

The Rev. FRANCIS WATTS having offered prayer, the CHAIRMAN said that any subject connected with the welfare of the British colonies ought ever to be regarded by Englishmen as one of pressing interest, because the people there spoke our language, adopted our customs, were governed by our

laws, and reproduced those institutions which were at once the peculiarity and the glory of the mother country. In addition to this, most of the people there were our own relations and friends, and, therefore, whatever touched their welfare should be looked upon by us with interest and affection. Then, again, we had large commercial relations with them, and therefore it was a matter of the highest moment that we should regard their moral welfare in order that those commercial relations might be prolonged, and be profitable to us. But there was another and a higher point of view in which, as Christians, they should look at the colonies; and it was in order to provide for the spiritual wants of the colonies, that the present meeting was held. The spiritual condition of the colonies had, of course, occupied the careful attention of the committee, and they had for years endeavoured to exercise their influence in sending men out to preach to the people there the everlasting Gospel. He was happy to say that they had been able to accomplish much, and that in almost all the large towns of Australia and the Canadas effective preachers had been placed, and that religion was in lively exercise amongst them. They had great reasons to be thankful to Almighty God for what they had already done, but there was still much remaining. There were many colonies into which they had never sent missionaries, and even where they had sent them they were crying out for more help, and the society was not able to meet the demand which was made upon it. There was one point which he wished to bring out, and that was that the society was an economical society, and that the churches in supporting the Colonial Missionary Society were in fact supporting every other. Whenever they sent out a missionary he gathered a people together, and formed a church, and immediately a missionary society was formed, because Christianity was reproductive, and the moment that a man had felt the power of religion in his own heart, he desired to extend it to others. The more they permeated the colonies, and especially Australia, with Christian truth, the more work they took off the hands of the London Missionary Society, and this was another reason why they should support the society. There were other reasons which might be urged, but he would not go further into them. The Rev. J. L. Poore had now returned to England for a time, and by visiting the various churches in this country, and bringing the matter before them, he hoped the work of the society would be more thoroughly appreciated, and that a larger fund would flow into its treasury. (Cheers.)

The Rev. T. JAMES, the secretary of the society, then read the report, of which the following is an abstract:—The object of the society was to follow the immigrant in all his migrations and to plant the permanent institutions of Christianity wherever he builds his cabin, to do that freely which the pilgrims in the Mayflower did under compulsion. A great amount of success had attended their work—127 Congregational ministers had been sent out by the society, and, inclusive of those who had gone out at their own cost, there were about 180 labourers. The total amount received from all sources (inclusive of 741*l.* 8*s.* 1*d.* contributed specially for the Melbourne College, 59*l.* due on account of special funds last year, and 235*l.* 10*s.* remitted by Australian colonies in aid of the expenses incurred in sending out ministers) was 6,718*l.* 5*s.*, and the total disbursements, 6,116*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.*, leaving a cash balance of 602*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.* in the hands of the treasurer; but from this must be written off on account of the Melbourne College 350*l.* 13*s.*; 16*l.* 10*s.* specially subscribed for colonial chapels, and 100*l.* reserved for sending out a minister to Auckland; leaving a credit balance of 134*l.* 16*s.* 2*d.*, with liabilities to the extent of 453*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.*, so that in reality there is a deficiency of 318*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* to be made up during the first half-year; and the committee urgently appeal for funds to meet their engagements.

The Rev. T. BINNEY read the last part of the report, which stated that the Rev. T. James, who for fourteen years has filled the office of secretary of the society, had, in consequence of advancing age and its attendant infirmities, tendered his resignation to the committee. The committee, recognising the reasonableness of Mr. James's proposal, had accepted the resignation but Mr. James was still to continue in connection with the society as a private member of the committee. The Rev. J. L. Poore, of Melbourne, had been asked to take the vacant secretaryship, and had consented to do so for one year.

The CHAIRMAN said he had forgotten to mention the great grief which the committee felt in having to announce the death of Mr. Fairfax, the son of one whom they all knew and loved so well. (Hear, hear.) He had just returned from this country to take his father's place in the business, but unfortunately about two months after his arrival there he was thrown from his horse, and died within thirty-six hours. Such was the respect in which he was held that on the day of the funeral nearly every shop in Sydney was closed, and all ranks and classes, from the governor downwards, sent their carriages to follow him to the grave. But for this Mr. Fairfax, senior, would have been present at the meeting, and he knew it would be a great comfort to him to know that they sympathised with him in his bereavement. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. HENRY ALLON, in moving the adoption of the report, said that he was hardly prepared to support the resolution which had been placed in his hands, for when he promised to attend the meeting he was not aware of what the wasting effect of the various meetings which he attended last week would be upon him; but he felt bound to come to testify to his great respect and sympathy for his friend, Mr.

James—(cheers)—whose services they were about to lose. He had not much to say about the operations of the society, for he did not know much about them, and there were others present who could speak on the point much better than he could, but it had always struck him that the society was somewhat of an anomalous one, though very felicitous in its character, inasmuch as it partook of the characteristics of both the Foreign and the Home Missionary Societies. It was an inevitable thing that such a society as this should be founded, because it was not in British Christianity, or any Christianity, to see large numbers of people leaving their native shores and emigrating to the colonies, without being solicitous about their religious welfare. It was not likely that English Christians would wait till those in the colonies sent to them for help, but it was only natural that they should send out men of God side by side with those who went to sow the seeds of new and great nations to plant there religious and social elements in the new society. He felt it very important not only that the godlessness frequently to be found amongst new colonists should be counteracted, but that false and superstitious forms of religion should be counteracted, by the ministers of the true religion. It was not enough for them that a ritual religion should be established there, but they wished to sow the seeds of a spiritual religion, such seeds as those which were sown by our Puritan forefathers in the American continent, and which had proved the main elements in the greatness of that great people. (Cheers.) He had great faith in their distinctive ecclesiastical principles; that they were full of the institutions of freedom, and that all that was great and good in the life of a nation was to be found, in germ and suggestion, in them; and, therefore, he felt very anxious that they should be extended all over the world, so that they might conduce to the welfare, the freedom, and the religiousness of the nations. Another very important point, and which had been referred to by the chairman, was the reproductiveness of colonial mission work. He believed the society's work would be done sooner than that of any other society, just because it was more efficiently performed. (Hear, hear.) There was no doubt a certain amount of shyness about some of the churches in connection with this society, the feeling being that colonies so wealthy as those of Australia ought to be able to provide spiritual instruction for themselves; but it should be recollected that new colonies could not be expected to find a sufficient number of men to do the work, although there was no doubt that in the course of time colleges would spring up, and the demand upon the home churches would not be so great. He, himself, had many spiritual children in the colonies, and the accounts which some of them sent him of the present position of the denomination in Australia were deplorable. He was glad that Mr. Graham had gone out there, and he hoped that others equal to him would follow his example. He should be very glad to see Mr. Binney himself there, the great Bishop of all the Australias; and he was sure that his life could not be more nobly spent than in planting the seeds of his great thoughts in those young colonies. (Cheers.) Mr. Allon concluded by paying a most hearty tribute of respect to Mr. James, and expressing his grief at his retirement from office.

The Rev. W. CUTHBERTSON seconded the adoption of the report. After referring to the death of Mr. Fairfax, he said he was glad to have the opportunity of expressing his thankfulness to God that the Rev. John Graham had gone to be the pastor of the church over which he himself formerly presided. With regard to Mr. Poore, he said that he did not think that gentleman's work in Australia was altogether done, but he believed that for a time at least he should render more effectual service to the society by visiting the different churches and bringing this matter before them, than he would by returning immediately to Australia. One point which he particularly wished to impress upon the meeting was, that if the English churches would only increase their liberality to the Australian churches they would be doing that which would take the whole of the mission work of the South Sea islands off their hands. He was glad that mention had been made in the report of certain names, but he hoped they would not forget those faithful laymen, but for whose assistance in the position in which Providence had placed them, they would not have been able to accomplish so much as they had done. He would earnestly ask for help for the society that its operations might be largely increased.

The Rev. T. BINNEY explained that the names which had been mentioned were considered as representative ones, and that the committee had no intention to overlook those men whom Mr. Cuthbertson had alluded to. He also mentioned that during the year he had been enabled to send 1,050*l.* to Australia towards the erection of the Stowe Memorial Church.

The Rev. ALEXANDER RALEIGH, in supporting the resolution, said he had only come to the meeting to express his great respect for Mr. James. Although he could not speak for the society, yet he could and did subscribe to it; he had a collection for it annually in his chapel, and he wished that other ministers would do the same. (Hear, hear.) The resolution was unanimously carried.

The Rev. R. W. DALE, of Birmingham, proposed the following resolution:—

That this meeting contemplates the progress of the society as described by the report, with feelings of devout thankfulness to God, whose blessing has so manifestly crowned its labours with success; and would encourage the committee to continue and even increase their efforts till every British colony be occupied by faithful men who shall unfold the unsearchable

riches of Christ to gathering multitudes of immigrants who are striving to make to themselves a new home in the far-off regions to which they have repaired.

He said he deeply regretted that Mr. James had felt obliged to retire from the society, but he was glad that he would still give his valuable aid and experience to the committee, and it must be a matter of very great pleasure to him to think that during the term of his official life the society had doubled both its operations and its income. He earnestly commended the society to the attention of all the churches at home.

The Rev. J. L. POORE (from Melbourne) seconded the resolution, and spoke briefly on the importance of the work which the society attempted to accomplish, and of the claims which it had on the sympathies of the English churches. He also referred to the great amount of good which had been done in Australia by the Rev. Mr. Newland, who had lately died.

The Rev. W. CLARKE supported the resolution, and gave a detailed account of the operations of the society in Canada, and the need which existed of their continuance and extension there.

The resolution was then carried, and the Rev. T. JAMES pronounced the benediction.

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN SYNOD.

The annual Synod of the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland met on Monday, May 9th, in Edinburgh, and continued its sittings during the week. The Rev. Dr. King, of London, was chosen moderator, in succession to the Rev. Alexander Young, of Logiealmond, who was congratulated on having entered the sixty-fifth year of his ministry.

UNION WITH THE FREE CHURCH.

The principal business before the Synod was the overture for union with the Free Church. The committee appointed to confer with the committee of the Free Church gave in a lengthened report on Wednesday, setting forth the matters in respect to which the committee were agreed, and also the points on which they differed, as regards "the relation of the civil magistrate to religion and the Church." The substance of this document has already appeared in our columns. Upon the other points, including matters of doctrine, as to which it was felt that mutual explanations were desirable, the committees, though they held ten meetings, had not had time to enter. The report occasioned a two days' debate, conducted with ability and vigour, and principally turning on the first two articles of agreement, viz.:—

1. The civil government is an ordinance of God for His own glory and the public good; that to the Lord Jesus Christ is given all power in heaven and on earth; and that magistrates, as well as other men, are under obligation to submit themselves to Him, and to regulate their conduct in their several places and relations by His word.

2. That the civil magistrate ought to further the interests of the religion of the Lord Jesus Christ among his subjects in every way consistent with its spirit and enactments, and to be ruled by it in the making of laws, the administration of justice, the swearing of oaths, and other matters of civil jurisdiction.

The Rev. Dr. HARPER, the convener of the committee, explained and defended the report of the committee at great length. In the course of his speech he said:—

The Free Church Committee denies the right of the magistrate to dictate in matters of faith, denies his authority in spiritual things, affirms his duty in certain circumstances to employ the national resources in aid of the Church, maintains the essential and perpetual obligations which Christ has laid on all His people to support and extend His Church by free-will offerings, also the lawfulness of aid from the State on certain conditions and in certain circumstances—a statement of the Establishment principle which must be allowed to be expressed in fair and moderate terms. The statement testifies strongly on behalf of Christian liberality, and the Church that speaks thus may be expected to set an example of it in maintaining the cause of the Redeemer. Has the Free Church failed in this? Has she not stood the test—nobly stood the test, so as to entitle her to say to many others, "Go thou and do likewise"? (Cheers.) On the other hand, the statement by your committee expresses more fully the voluntary principle than any decision or document that has heretofore emanated from this United Synod. The repudiation of force in spiritual things, the New Testament law for the maintenance and extension of the Church, the exclusion thereby of State aid for these purposes, are the prominent particulars in these articles, together with the grounds of secession from the Established Church as set forth in our summary of principles. (Applause.)

He dwelt upon the advantages and necessity of union, and said that when the committee parted it was with sentiments of mutual kindness and respect, and perhaps with an impression on most minds that sooner or later the contemplated union must be accomplished. (Applause.)

Mr. Renton, Kelso, said he had read with amazement and disappointment the articles of agreement about the civil magistrate, which he thought very consistent with the views of the Free Church, but inconsistent with those of the United Presbyterian Church. He thought the modifications and qualifications to which their committee had consented, went the length of swamping their Voluntarism.

The qualifications and restrictions, or counter-statements, with which these concessions are accompanied, however good in themselves, are worthless. Disguise it as they may, the province of religion is left exposed to the invasion of the civil magistrate, and a spiritual

prerogative is conceded to him. The most Erastian rulers we ever had in this kingdom could find warrant and room sufficient within these articles for all the authority and persecution they exercised in religion; and when I mention persecution, which one of the articles says truly is disclaimed and prohibited by Christ's religion, I would only observe that of it, as of other points, the magistrate is left to be interpreter and judge—so that when the magistrate and the subject come into collision about religion, the latter has a very frail security against persecution. We know that Edinburgh magistrates, who embraced and professed the Christian religion, have, under all the phases of the Annuity-tax, held its exaction by force from recusant Dissenters to be quite consistent with the spirit and enactments of the Christian religion. (Applause.) We know that English magistrates, who embraced and professed the Christian religion, hold the enforcement of Church-rates from recusant Dissenters to be quite consistent with its spirit and enactments. And we know, in short, that under all the forms of persecution since the civil establishment of the Christian religion, magistrates who embraced and professed it have, with dominant ecclesiastics, held their most violent proceedings to be quite consistent with its spirit and enactments. In this country, where the duty, as it is called, of embracing and professing the Christian religion has long been imposed on the civil magistrates, we know that in times past the result has been a vast amount of hypocrisy, profanity, and perjury on the part of statesmen and magistrates, who did not believe in what they professed, and were not supposed by anybody to believe it. I have no faith in the magistrate's proper performance of his duties farther than as they are defined and restricted by the Court. I desire as heartily as any man that all magistrates were Christian, and that their rule was; but I believe that both will be so only in so far as the laws are, and that the laws will be so only in so far as those who frame them—that is, in a free country like ours, in so far as the citizens are leavened with Christian principles. The articles of agreement are such as we could not beforehand have imagined that any committee of this Synod would ever have concocted or sanctioned. That so distinguished a committee have adopted them, and are able to interpret them consistently with our principles, must be accepted as an indisputable proof of their great amiableness and great ingenuity—(laughter)—but these are not the qualities which will command the admiration and gratitude of the Church.

Dr. CAIRNS, at great length, defended the articles, which he said were not ambiguous. He contended that as the magistrate in a Christian country like this ought to have "religious motives in his breast," he could not be neutral, and if in any sense whatever he has to do with religion it must be to further it. He said there might be occasions when the civil magistrate, in entire harmony with the will of the people, might take steps for the furthering of religion, and instanced a fast as an example.

Had we said anything, or had we insinuated anything that implied that the civil magistrate was to set himself up over, and distinct from, the community as the judge of religion for the community, and then to enforce that judgment by civil pains and penalties, undoubtedly we would have compromised and subverted the fundamental principles of the United Presbyterian Church; but not only have we said nothing of that, but the Free Church in their paper—which I am not called on here to defend—have said nothing like that, for they have expressly declared that the civil magistrate must not so sustain himself as a public judge as to dictate to his subjects in matters of faith, and that he has no authority in spiritual things. They have not disclaimed, as we have done, one application of that principle, one possible application of the general doctrine that he is to further the interests of the religion of the Lord Jesus Christ—they have not disclaimed that, as they could not consistently do, but they have guarded against that error which is the root of the Establishment principle, that the civil magistrate is a judge of what is true and false in religion. For that concession or explanation—I will not call it conversation—we are greatly obliged to our friends of the Free Church, and so far from yielding our own principles, we have obtained from them most gratifying harmony and concord in regard to that most important and fundamental principle.

Dr. DAVIDSON objected strongly to the third clause of the first article. There, he contended, was the thin edge of the wedge, which had only to be driven home to rend the professed voluntarism of the Church to shivers, or render it a laughing-stock to thinking men. It was not what they might think of these words, but what interpretation they would fairly bear.

You will doubtless be told that I have altogether mistaken the meaning and design of the article. I maintain that I have not misrepresented the fair—nay, necessary—meaning of the words of it; but if I have, there is an easy remedy—let any member of committee, or any member of Synod, propose that the clause in question be amended. Let it be made to read thus:—"That in their private character magistrates, as well as other men, are under obligation to submit themselves to Christ, and to regulate their conduct in their several places and relations by His Word"—let the Synod declare that this is the only form in which it can accept the clause, and though I would still consider it unnecessary and in other points of view objectionable, I would esteem it harmless, and withdraw all serious opposition to it; but if this be not done—remembering that we have another committee and another Church to deal with, who will no doubt accept the clause as I have interpreted it, I implore the Synod to refuse their sanction to it. Let its adoption be at least delayed. Let the Synod allow time for consideration and discussion. Let it not commit itself to a doctrine which I hope hundreds of the ministers and tens of thousands of the people of this Church, after consideration, are prepared to repudiate, and the acceptance of which, therefore, instead of preparing for union, is likely to promote strife and controversy, and even disunion.

Their committee said "that the civil magistrate ought to further the interests of the religion of Jesus Christ in every way consistent with its spirit and enactments: and to be ruled by it in the making of laws, the administration of justice, the

swearing of oaths, and other matters of civil jurisdiction."

He is not merely to favour it, but "further it" in every way possible; and not merely to give it the control that belongs to it, but to be ruled by it, both in legislation and administration—i. e., to rule his subjects by it. I ask, could the Queen of England, as the supreme head of the Church of England, desire more power over the religion of her subjects than this gives her? Nay, could the Pope of Rome, as the Vicar of Christ, and as a temporal Sovereign, really wish more authority over the religion of his own subjects than this allows to every civil magistrate? The committee afterwards say that Erastian supremacy of the State over the Church, and anti-Christian domination of the Church over the State, ought to be condemned; but if this article do not embody the very quintessence of both of these, I confess that I am unable to comprehend its import or see its bearing. Allow the civil magistrate, as such, to further the interests of Christianity among his subjects, and you set the State over the Church. Tell him that, in his civil government, he is to be ruled by Christianity—ruled, that is, by Christianity as understood by the dominant sect in his dominions—and you go far at least to set the Church over the State. By both together you place the Church and State in a sort of tottering equilibrium which will ever be in danger of being overturned, and which will necessarily work mischief both to the interests of religion and to the peace and well-being of civil society.

If the principle on which the State endowment of the Church was condemned be worth anything, it must apply to all kinds and degrees of State interference with religion whatever, and it must apply to one religion as well as another, in so far, at least, as that religion did not lead to civil disorder and crime.

Mr. RITCHIE, of Aberdeen, protested against the proposition of either side being adopted, and wished that the voluntary and establishment principle should be left open questions. Mr. MARSHALL, of Conpar Angus, replied at some length to Dr. Davidson, after which the debate was adjourned.

The discussion was re-opened on Thursday. Mr. OLIVER, of Galashiels, strongly criticised the articles; Mr. McLeod, of Birkenhead, anticipated that the two opposing forces of the voluntary and establishment principles, might keep the United Church in an orbit round the great centre of light and life. Mr. GUNION, of Strathaven, urged that the Free Church neither expected nor wished for any State endowments. Dr. EDMOND, of London, thought there was needless alarm. The committee of the Liberation Society, whose zeal for voluntarism would not be questioned, had expressed themselves in terms of agreeable surprise to discover the close relations between the Free and United Churches as explained in the statements, and he had reason to know that the able and prominent members of that Society, though previously somewhat jealous lest there should be any betrayal of principle, spoke in commendatory terms of the resolute and faithful exposition of the claims of voluntarism contained in the articles of the United Presbyterian committee. After several other speeches had been delivered, the movers and seconders of four different motions retired and unanimously brought up a resolution which the assembly adopted with acclamation, to the effect that the Synod express great satisfaction at the Christian courtesy which had distinguished the conference, and its unabated sense of the importance of the object, and, without giving any deliverance on the articles in the report, reappoint the committee to continue the conferences. The Moderator expressed his confidence in the ultimate result.

At the Synodical missionary meeting on Wednesday evening contributions were reported as received amounting to 19,624*l.* for foreign, 8,794*l.* for home missions, and 11,000*l.* for the manse fund.

PRESBYTERIANISM IN ENGLAND.

A report was given in at one of the sittings by the Rev. Hamilton McNeill, one of the mission secretaries of the Church, narrating the progress of the "London Church Extension scheme," and stating that they had at present seven congregations in London, and at least fifteen places had been pointed out on the map of London as localities where new churches might be planted with success equal to that which had attended former efforts.

Mr. McNeill then said the great home mission duty of the Church was now to go into England. They had a separate scheme for Edinburgh and Glasgow, and when they had done their work there he was bold to say that having looked over the whole face of the country, with the exception of a few mining villages, there were no places where they could wisely expend their efforts in multiplying churches. Where were they to go? Providence pointed to England. The state of the Church of England and the state of doctrine even in the pulpits of many of their Independent brethren in England—(Hear, hear)—and many other circumstances, united to show that England was the field of home missions which they should set before themselves as a Church.

A long discussion took place on the question whether the English mission should be managed from headquarters or by the "brethren in England," but no vote was taken on the point, a committee being appointed to report upon the subject.

THE PEACE SOCIETY.

The forty-eighth anniversary of the above society was held yesterday evening in Finsbury Chapel, Moorfields. The chair was taken at half-past six by Joseph Peace, Esq., the president.

The Rev. H. RICHARD, the secretary, read an abstract of the report, which commenced by stating

that the committee met their friends on this occasion, if not with the cheerful hope they might have entertained a few years ago, in no mood of misgiving or uncertainty. They felt neither doubt as to the soundness of their principles nor despondency as to their ultimate success. On the other hand, they believed that those principles were silently working their way like leaven in the heart of society. At home they could not but hope that a wiser and a more Christian temper was beginning to prevail. As the after swell of the Russian war more and more subsided men had leisure to reflect on its character and results, and the more they did so, the less satisfaction did they feel in the remembrance of that unhappy episode in our history. The society might be blamed for the tenacity with which they adhered to what were called abstract and impracticable principles, but the whole history of mankind proved that those who had the courage to hold fast by abstract principles were the men that in the long run governed the world. The ordinary operations of the society have been pursued much as usual. The committee regretted that the state of their funds had obliged them somewhat to contract their agency as compared with last year. Three lecturers had been employed during the year—Mr. Stokes in the North, Mr. Fry in the South, and Mr. O'Neil in the Midland Counties. After mentioning the facts relating to the publications of the society, the report proceeded to notice the special operations in which they had been engaged during the year. With reference to the conflict in the United States, the question had frequently engaged their attention whether there was anything they could do beyond what they had already done, but the conclusion to which they had been forced to come was that while the public mind in that country was so fearfully inflamed, all attempts at remonstrance would only serve to exasperate. With reference to Japan, the report having detailed the history of the rupture with that country, said that the committee had memorialised her Majesty, and had prepared and published pamphlets, including the substance of a discourse on the subject by the Rev. T. Binney, an example of courageous fidelity to the cause of truth and righteousness which they could not but think it were well were it more frequently followed in the British pulpit. After entering at some length upon the practical policy of arbitration recommended by the society, and the correspondence between the committee and the Emperor of the French, with reference to the Congress proposed by the Emperor, thus the report proceeds:—

The committee believe that no harm could have come, and much good might have come, out of such a congress. Is it not possible, nay, is it not highly probable, that it might have averted the deplorable war which is now desolating the north of Europe? For be it observed that now, after three months of deadly fighting, the statesmen concerned acknowledge that the best hope of bringing it to an end lies in a congress, differing nothing in principle from the one which the Emperor proposed. But would it not have been better that it should have met before all the bloodshed and misery which has ensued, and before the triumph of mere might has done so much to disturb the balance of justice?

Before the quarrel between Denmark and the Duchies of Schleswig-Holstein had broken forth into open war, the committee deemed it their duty to address a memorial to Earl Russell, in which, while thanking his lordship for the persevering efforts he had made to secure a pacific solution of the difficulty, they respectfully but earnestly besought her Majesty's Government, in the event of those efforts proving unsuccessful, to abstain, not only from taking part by any overt act in the hostilities between Germany and Denmark, but from all such diplomatic alterations and engagements, as well as from such menacing demonstrations of force, as may gradually implicate the nation in the conflict without its knowledge and against its will. They addressed their auxiliaries and correspondents also in various parts of the country, recommending them to pursue a similar course, and issued a tract, moreover, designed to show the reasons why England should act on the principle of non-intervention as respects this unhappy contest.

The dispute between Denmark and the Duchies of Schleswig-Holstein has a special interest to the friends of Peace, for they cannot forget the remarkable scene which took place at the Frankfurt Peace Congress in 1850, when the same quarrel which now so agitates Europe had once before been appealed to the wager of battle. There are probably many here who remember how Dr. Bodenstedt appeared in the tribune in St. Paul's Church appealing to the Congress to interpose as mediators between the combatants then standing front to front in battle array, and how, though the Congress could not undertake the work, the honoured and heroic Joseph Sturge, accompanied by his friends, Elihu Burritt and Frederick Wheeler, went on that mission to the scene of conflict, and how at one time there seemed every probability that the two Governments would have been brought to refer the matters in dispute between them to the decision of impartial arbitrators to be mutually chosen. Can any one doubt, that if the matter had been then submitted to such an umpirage they would have arrived at a better and more lasting solution of the difficulty than that soon after proposed by the diplomatists. It is very certain, at any rate, that it could not well have been worse.

The committee expressed their obligation to her Majesty's Government for not implicating this country in the American, Dano-German, or Polish wars, and they see in the present attitude of the country on those questions an increased appreciation of the principles and policy of the Peace Society. They expressed a hope that the conviction would gradually dawn upon the mind both of the Government and the people that England had really no call to take the place of Providence in regard to the other nations of the earth, to prescribe to them forms of government, to regulate their relations with each other, to teach them lessons of political morality, and generally to advise between, and threaten mankind into good

behaviour. It would be unquestionably best to leave the Great Governor of the Universe to rule the world, and to administer His own system of rewards and punishments without England's attempting to snatch the sceptre out of His hand, and to anticipate the execution of His judgments. The following were among the concluding passages of the report:—

The committee of the Peace Society feel they are entitled to say that the experience of the last ten years, years of gigantic conflicts, but for the most part of miserably abortive results, have served not to shatter but to confirm their convictions, as to not only the beneficence but the wisdom of the principles they hold. There are two methods of governing human nature and human society which have been struggling for pre-dominance ever since the introduction of Christianity. The one aspires to rule man through his body, the other through his soul. The one puts its trust in military force, the other in moral and spiritual influence; the one uses as its instruments terror and violence, the other truth and love; the one is the offspring of human policy, the other is the emanation of Divine wisdom; the one relies for success upon man's arm of flesh, the other on the power of the living God. The Peace Society expresses, and to the best of its ability champions, the latter of these two methods. The professing Christian world has, for the most part, for eighteen centuries, clung tenaciously to the former. And with what results? With this among other results, that at this moment the Governments of the so-called Christian nations are spending in fighting and in preparing to fight ten times, a hundred times more, than all they bestow to promote art, science, literature, health, education, morality and religion among their people. That in Europe alone these same Governments are to take four millions of their young men, the very flower of their ripest manhood, to withdraw them from the occupations of civil life, to devote themselves to the work of learning and practising the trade of destroying their fellow-men. And this, be it observed, they deem themselves *obliged* to do, by the sheer terror of each other which the system they have adopted, inspires. This surely cannot be called success? But will our method succeed better? It will succeed if it is fairly tried, tried in the spirit of its Author, and in reliance upon His help. But it is an indispensable condition of success, that those who try it should have implicit and unflinching faith in its efficacy. We shall not succeed if in moments of extreme danger and temptation—if when the battle with evil waxed hot and dangerous, we are inspired with sudden distrust, cast away from us the celestial armour in which our Master has equipped us for the conflict, and hastily snatch up the arms of flesh we are forbidden to use. So acting, we shall not only suffer defeat ourselves, but we shall dishonour the name and indefinitely postpone the triumph of the principles we profess to reverence. At all times and in all circumstances it is a fatal mistake to attempt to fight God's battles with the devil's weapons.

The following is the cash account; on hand, May 15th, 1863, 441l. 11s. 1d.; income for the year, 1,492l. 5s. 0d.; expenditure for the year, 1,879l. 12s. 3d.; balance in hand, 54l. 3s. 10d.

The CHAIRMAN, in the course of a short introductory address, said that he could appeal to every one present whether under the very discouraging phases of the times there had not been an amount of energy and personal courage in the actions of the committee which demanded the respect and admiration of all their supporters. As soon as he quitted that presidential chair—and he was anxious that it should be at an early day, because of his growing infirmities—he should retire feeling that if he might speak of any honour that came from his fellow creatures, he should consider that it was one of the greatest honours conferred upon him that any of the gentlemen around him should think him worthy to succeed those who had persuaded him to take a part in that hallowed enterprise. What was it that prevented the Gospel from exercising that influence and away upon civilised England and its dependencies which it ought to do? War and slaughter stood in the way of the free circulation of the Bible. (Hear, hear.) There was nothing that so much prevented missionaries obtaining an influence over the native mind as the knowledge that England acts so often in defiance of the precepts of the Bible. In the interests of peace he was glad to find his name held up to ridicule and opprobrium. As soon as the letter to the Emperor of the French appeared he observed that the Peace Society was held up to derision by a great portion of the public press; but on the other hand, he had received from all parts of the country such warm eulogiums of the conduct of the society as far more than to compensate for having been made a jest of the day. He recommended those who took an interest in the society, to make its principles the subject of frequent conversation. It was true that there was all the tinsel of woman's smiles on the field of review; it was true that the gay uniform and the martial music attracted the young men. If it were not for such things the martial spirit would soon decline. At present he feared that it was producing a very demoralising effect upon the country, and a very deteriorating effect upon Christian churches of the land. He thought they should exercise gratitude to God for the measure of success which had attended the operations of the society. The letter from the Emperor of the French was an effort in the right direction. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. SAMUEL BOWLEY, of Gloucester, moved the first resolution:—

That this meeting, while adhering to the principle on which the Peace Society is based, that all war is opposed to the spirit and precepts of Christianity, cannot but rejoice over any disposition shown by the Governments of the civilised world to adopt those maxims and measures of practical policy which have a tendency to diminish the custom of appealing to the sword. They are therefore especially gratified at the proposal of the Emperor of the French in favour of those measures of arbitration, and the simultaneous reduction of armaments, for which the friends of peace have so long and so earnestly contended. He said that he had been told that it was unde-

sirable for the members of the Society of Friends to take an active part in that matter, inasmuch as it was thought by the world at large that it was a Quaker question, and that they had better leave it to somebody else. He believed that there were a great many persons who really thought that the principles of the society were notions merely of the Society of Friends, but he wished to state to the meeting that they held to no notion but what they found plainly written in the New Testament. He wished religious people to consider what was the bearing of New Testament doctrines upon that question. Few persons attempted to defend war from the New Testament. There was a time when war was pretty much an affair of governments, but in a constitutional country it was the fault of the people if the Government went to war. They would make no deep impression, however, on the worldly mind of the country so long as the war system was supported from the pulpit. It was surprising how sensitive religious people were to any slighting of truth in certain directions. A refusal to accept the Scriptures was denounced in strong language. Bishop Colenso had been found great fault with, and very justly so, but the very men who denounced Colenso appeared practically to disbelieve the most clear and definite directions of the New Testament in relation to war. The question must therefore be brought more prominently before the religious mind of the country. He had great faith in endeavouring, by quiet influence, to bring the preachers of the Gospel to look at the matter from a right standpoint. He saw many intelligent ladies in the room, and he believed that if they would but have moral courage to go to some of the ministers of religion around them, and bring the subject before their notice, they would produce a deeper impression upon them than anything else. He knew that large numbers of persons did not defend war on the abstract, but at the same time believed that it was impossible in the present state of the world to avoid it. He was one, however, who believed in the practicableness of Christianity. He did not say that it did not cost something. It cost the Apostles their lives, and if those men had refused to preach it because of its seeming impracticableness, we might never have heard of it till this day. There was no precept or doctrine on the New Testament that was impracticable, and it was on that account that he believed in the unlawfulness of oaths. What was morally right could not be politically wrong. They all knew that the Russian war had been applauded, and yet there was scarcely an individual now who would defend it. Would anyone say that the American war was necessary? The South had begun the war, and had bitterly regretted doing so, he verily believed. And as to the Danish war, he fully believed that if Joseph Sturge and his friends had been allowed, without red-tapeism, simply to have brought the parties to a fair arbitration, the question might have been settled on a permanent basis; and even if the arbitration had failed Denmark would have stood in an unquestionably higher position with the world if she had not drawn the sword at all. If Germany had invaded a country that would not take the sword the act would have been an outrage upon the feelings of all Europe. He did not think persons sufficiently estimated the suffering occasioned by war. He had seen a child undergo an operation under the influence of chloroform, and had marked the pain the child suffered when the drug had spent itself. What then must the mangled on the battle-field suffer? Then, the influence of war upon the morals of a community was exceedingly bad. The militiamen were too often an utter disgrace to the country. He was not, however, wholly discouraged at the present aspect of things. He never felt that labour was in vain when he was spreading Christian truth. (Hear, hear.) He noticed a great change in the spirit of the community with regard to war. The opponents of slavery laboured nearly twenty years unsuccessfully, but what a change had now come over the public mind of this country. It was but a few years ago that he was hooted at in the streets for being a teetotaler; people touched their hats now. (Cheers.) There were three gigantic evils in the world—slavery, intemperance, war. As far as this country was concerned, slavery was abolished. Something had been done on behalf of temperance, and if everybody would help all would be done that need be. So far as war was concerned, they were making progress in the right direction. People used to have a great idea of conquest. It was so glorious for a nation to have a great extent of territory. Now they were beginning to see that a great extent of territory was often of very doubtful value. People were also beginning to see that injuring another country did not benefit themselves, and that war, after all, did not settle the questions in dispute. The proposition of the Emperor of the French was a noble tribute to their principles. He believed that the Emperor was perfectly sincere. Not that he held the principles of the Peace Society. (Hear, hear.) No, but he believed that the great security for his government was in the development of the resources of France, and that could only be done in times of peace. If, however, the Emperor had not been sincere, it would still have been their duty to respond to his invitation to the Congress. They had not to look so much at men's motives as at the character of their actions. He believed that a time would come in the history of the world when men would see that it was their interest as well as duty to follow the standard of peace. People talked about defending their homes; he had children and grandchildren, and property, and yet he believed that they would be as secure without the soldiers as with them. In dealing with wicked people he always found Christian principles stronger than force. (Cheers.)

Mr. ELIHU BURRITT seconded the resolution, and

said that another year had rolled round since they last met to review the gloomy course of one which had just closed its painful history. At that time the firmament was hung with clouds, thick, heavy, and muttering; the future was coming on like a dark sunless morning in winter, and the black rim of the rising year was flushed with no golden twilight of promise. Such a day as that the friends of peace had never seen before, and the only question which, in face of the gloomy prospect, they could ask each other, was, "Watchman, what of the night?" It was the most searching ordeal which their cause had ever encountered since it was first admitted into the goodly fellowship of Christian philanthropy, and it had sifted and thinned their ranks like the test which reduced Gideon's army to the scanty roll of a village trainband. And now the year had staggered to its end, laden, like Bunyan's Pilgrim, with the wild passions of contending nations; but still the day was dark and dreary—and still there was a red rain falling, in blistering drops of wrath, upon many a green land which heaven's sun and dew had lightened and moistened with their own lovingkindness. War had widened and deepened its desolation. With its sickle keen it had reaped the bearded grain of human lives on many a field which never before had felt its edge, and the graves of nearly a million of men, cut off in the summer of their days, were the stubble which that sickle had left behind it. Still it was dark enough to ask, "Watchman, what of the night?" Was there any ray of a better morning for mankind? Was this the deep darkness which closely preceded the break of day? Was there a thin rift in the clouds through which could be seen the flush of the up-coming sun? The special incident of the meeting was that they could answer, "Yes," to all these questions, though they could not have done so a year ago, and they could say it now with a feeling of hope which they had never had before. In one respect, the most remarkable event in the history of Christendom had taken place during the past year, and one which was the most unlikely to happen. A year ago the whole of the Western Hemisphere was involved in war; war surcharged the very atmosphere in which the nations breathed and moved; war was everywhere the thought and talk of men; war went up into the pulpit, and blended its unsanctified figures even with the parable of the good Samaritan, and with the gentlest smiles of the Saviour's Sermon on the Mount; war went to ballrooms and to picnics, and bedizened and bedazzled concerts and oceries with the blazonry and the blaudishment of the flush and fashion, and with the piping symphonies of its brazen music; in fact, it was just a juncture of events at which the friends of peace, who had so long laboured and looked for better things, might go up unto the clefts of the rocks, and look out in silence and sadness upon the storm, and see whether it would leave standing one of the slow built-structures of their hope when it had blown out its own violence. Just at this time they had seen a sight which he believed the world had never seen before. They had seen the great central sovereign of Christendom take their storm-beaten banner, which was swaying almost to the ground in their worn and trembling stands, and he would not say that he had stooped from his Imperial throne to reach it, but he had risen, and stood on tip-toe in the highest place of earthly monarchs, and reached it with his sceptre's end, and held its white folds before the nations, showing sword-girded and angry people those grand and holy words of promise, "Blessed are the peace-makers." (Cheers.) The special and gladdening significance of this was that it was their flag, that it was not a parallel, but that it was a continuity of the same line, not a coincidence, but an incidence, that the sovereign whom they would have chosen above all others in Europe had come to lead the great work of organised, permanent, and universal peace. It was their right and their duty to show this identity, and to make it clear and conclusive that they believed the Emperor's object was the abolition of war by the very plan which the friends of the peace on both sides of the Atlantic had been advocating continuously for nearly half a century. A congress of nations to settle the more serious difficulties arising between them had been the culminating measure which they had held to steadily from the very beginning, and it should be mentioned and recorded that for nearly fifty years these propositions had been kept before the Governments and people of Christendom in every available form—namely, stipulated arbitration, proportionate and simultaneous disarmament, and a congress of nations, the last being the crowning-stone of the edifice, and the others the scaffolding with which to build up the grand consummation. It was their privilege to regard this as a most gladdening result of nearly fifty years of toil and trial on the part of those who had borne the heat and burden of the day in this great reformation. But it was said by many, and almost in terms of exultation, that the Emperor's project broke down. Certainly it would have been too sanguine an expectation even for the greatest friend of peace to suppose that such a magnificent and glorious prospect would succeed at the first essay. Such had not been the experience of other moral enterprises which had blessed the world, and this idea must also be subjected to the everlasting law of "try again." (Cheers.) But the civilised world knew pretty well how to appreciate the character of Louis Napoleon, and they knew that what he had once set his heart upon he would adhere to with that unswerving characteristic of his, and so there was hope for the future even now. But why did the Emperor's proposition fail? Of course it was impossible that it could succeed without the cordial co-operation of England, and if she had joined France as heartily as she did in the Crimean war, and had brought her practical wisdom to bear upon the subject, and had expressed her sympathy, there was every reason to believe that the Dano-German question would have been settled without a single drop of human blood being shed, and other questions threatening the peace of Europe would have been satisfactorily solved, and a broad and firm foundation laid for the permanent peace and gradual disarmament of the nations. (Cheers.) But why did England decline to unite in the Congress? He might be mistaken, but he believed that there were thousands in this country of all political parties who thought the temporal influence of a personal characteristic gave the determining bias to this official decision of England. He believed that there was no living British statesman who stood higher in the estimation of Christendom for honesty and purity of mind and motive and for general good will towards human progress than Earl Russell—(cheers)—but in declining to act with

French Emperor in this matter his lordship had revealed one feature of his mind which his warmest friends and admirers must admit to be somewhat disproportionately developed in the structure of his intellect, and that was a profound veneration for historical precedents and prescriptions. Thus in the objections which he brought to the Emperor's proposal, what seemed to stand in the front rank was that it was out of the direct line of history—(laughter)—and that such a congress, as in the case of Vienna, had always come after a war, and never before it. The *ante-bellum* or war-preventing congress proposed by the Emperor was not what Earl Russell wanted, but he preferred an old-fashioned congress, after the fashion of that at Vienna in 1815, a *post-bellum* congress, to recognise and regulate what had been done on the battle-field, and to legalise the verdict of the sword which was still red and reeking with its fierce judgment. The Emperor, however, had yielded to this predilection of the noble earl's with unexpected grace and courtesy, and accordingly there was now in London a regular historical congress, but he believed that England and the world would not be convinced that this congress would work out a better result than would have been realised from the one proposed by the Emperor Napoleon. (Hear, hear.) Perhaps, the world wanted one more trial of the historical congress, and certainly it now had it, and he hoped they would soon cry, "Enough." The ground now was pretty well cleared for their old proposition of a Congress of nations, and in the hands of the French Emperor they might be sure that the proposition would be carried against history—that old Giant Despair, who had built a Doubting Castle athwart the upward path of the nations, and had confined in its sunless dungeons many a statesman who should be free as heaven's own light. Let them still have courage and faith. Let them not now abandon the flag they raised in other years, as it were at the gable end of a thatched cottage, because the next powerful Emperor in the world had nailed it to the highest pinnacle of his palace. They might depend upon that it would be lifted again as the most glorious banner ever unfurled to the nations, and under which they would yet gather gladly, and build up a temple which should be to all nations and tongues and kindreds what Solomon's was to the Hebrew tribes, and when the tope-tone should be raised to its place the acclamations of "Grace, grace unto it," would run like a universal pass-word of joy among the assembled peoples. (Loud applause.)

The resolution was unanimously carried, and a collection was then made in aid of the funds of the society.

The Rev. PAXTON HOOD proposed the following resolution:—

That this meeting gratefully acknowledges the wisdom and firmness with which her Majesty's Ministers have abstained from interfering by force of arms, in the American, Polish, or Dano-German wars, which could only, in each case, have extended the area, and aggravated the horrors of the conflict. It earnestly hopes that the Government will not only adhere to this policy of forbearance as respects Europe and America, but that it will extend the same to our Eastern relations, so that England may not again have to blush before the world for such acts as those recently perpetrated, in her name, in China and Japan, acts all the more indefensible, as our recent experience in India has proved, that in the East as in the West, the most conciliatory and humane policy is also the most successful.

He said that enough had already been said to inspire their enthusiasm in the cause in which they were engaged, but it was a very remarkable thing that at this time of day, nearly 2,000 years after so much had been said in the world about peace by Lips that could not err, so much should still remain to be said among Christian people as to the duty of preserving the peace. (Hear, hear.) There were two aspects of this question, one of which was very easy, and the other very difficult, to deal with. It was very easy to assert the abstract principle that war was wrong, and that it was hateful, and must be hateful, to the Christian; but when they got into the complications of statesmanship as to political peace, the question becomes very much more embarrassed. It was a very easy thing to stand there on the platform and advocate the principles of the society, and he believed that at all their annual meetings they had some Christian ministers present who had avowed their attachment to peace principles. (Hear, hear.) He well recollected that some thirteen years ago they were very sanguine about this matter, and believed that these peace principles were to be incarnated among the statesmanships and governments of the earth, and they almost thought they saw the New Jerusalem coming down from heaven as a bride adorned for her husband. But things had turned out very differently since, and the New Jerusalem had not come, but some of them were almost inclined to think that they were in a worse position now than then; for since then they had had the introduction of muscular Christianity, war had gathered over Europe, and, above all, there was that wildest havoc of war in America. Although they still held to their profession, yet they could not repress their indignation at what was now being done by some nations whom he would not name; but then, what added to our sorrow was, that when thinking of these things, the remembrance of Kagosima came back, and made us feel that we had quite enough to do to look at home and weep and mourn for our own sines. (Hear, hear.) He took it for granted that they would not get much sympathy for principles like those which they professed, for they were, in fact, before the times, and they would no doubt be charged with unnationality, and all that sort of thing, but he looked back, and as the age travelled over the past age he saw that something had been done. They had now got over the age of castle-building, even in continental countries, and here in England how sweetly the sun smiled upon the fields, and how peacefully all pursued their avocations! He believed that God meant to do for the world what He had done for England, and that though now their hearts were desponding and the eyes of many were filled with tears, the time would come at last when the struggle of nations would be over, and when, as the great statesman Guizot had so admirably worded it, "peace for ever, and peace should be the destiny of the world." (Loud cheers.) He entirely went along with the resolution which he had proposed, and with reference to the chivalry which was now being exhibited in many quarters, he would recommend the men who sat down to write and advise the Government of this country to enter into one of the present wars to go and fight themselves; but he would also remind them that there was an immense amount of moral responsibility connected with such advice as they gave if it

should have any influence with either the Government or the people of the country. (Hear, hear.) The doctrine of non-interference was not a new one, but had been acted upon by some of the greatest of statesmen, and the late Sir Robert Peel, in his last speech in the House of Commons, only a few hours before his death, expressed his conviction of the danger and insanity of interfering in the domestic affairs of foreign nations. For his own part he could not conceive by what process people got into war at all, and then called themselves Christians. Some people were always saying, "Come, behold the works of the Lord, what desolation he hath wrought on the earth," but they seemed to forget that the text went on to say—"He breaketh the bow and cutteth the spear in sunder, and maketh wars to cease to the end of the earth." He could not sympathise with all that had been said about the Emperor of the French, who was no very great friend of his; but they must remember when they thought of the flag which had been so beautifully spoken of, there might have been a higher Hand which wound it round the pole, and that as David was not permitted to build a temple because he was a man of war, so perhaps the Emperor had not been allowed to carry out his project for the same reason. Still he must admit, from his own personal observation, what great things the Emperor was doing for France. They must never forget who it was that guided the results of war, and who had enabled them in looking back on their past history to say,—"We thought of thy lovingkindness, O Lord, in the midst of thy temple." Let them have faith in a righteous cause, and believe in God, and ultimately they must succeed. (Applause.)

The Rev. JAMES LONG, a Church missionary from India, in seconding the resolution, referred to the great hindrance which the former war policy of this country caused to the spread of the Gospel in India, though there was now a very great improvement in that respect. He thought the present prospects of the success of peace principles were very encouraging, especially in Prussia, and he believed that if Poland had not taken up arms as she had done she would by this time have stood in a far better position than she at present does.

The resolution was carried, and a vote of thanks having been passed to the chairman with acclamation, the meeting broke up.

THE RAGGED SCHOOL UNION.—The twentieth annual meeting of the friends and supporters of the above was held on Monday night, the 9th inst., at Exeter Hall. The Right Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury occupied the chair. The report, which was read by the secretary, congratulated the subscribers upon the large and increasing success which had attended the operations of the society during the past year, and gave a brief outline of the foundation and commencement of the union, and traced its influence and working during the twenty years of its existence. During the period named the number of ragged-schools had increased from twelve or fifteen rooms to 175 buildings, embracing 600 schools, besides industrial classes, mothers' meetings, and a variety of other useful efforts for the improvement and benefit of the poorer classes of London. In these 175 buildings are carried on 202 Sunday-schools, with an average attendance of 24,170; 187 day-schools, with an average attendance of 18,620; 187 week-evening schools, with an average attendance of 8,450; giving a total of 600 schools with 51,247 scholars, being an increase of about 1,500 upon last year. In January last was held a conference of secretaries, superintendents, &c., of ragged-schools, and deputations from local committees, for the purpose of considering the means to be employed for rendering ragged-schools increasingly efficient, and to extend them to localities where wanted. Various plans were suggested which are still under the consideration of the committee, who hoped to be able to report that some practical good would result from one or other of the plans, or a combination of all. The number of scholars sent to situations during the year was about 1,600; most of whom are known to be doing well, and getting an honest living by their own industry. The number that took prizes at the meeting in February for having kept their situations twelve months was 500. The shoeblack branch also goes on successfully, having eight societies numbering 335 lads, whose total earnings during last year were no less than 6,423*l.* There are seventy-five penny banks, with 20,000 depositors, having a sum of 1,309*l.*; and twenty-eight Bands of Hope, with no less than 4,275 members. The results of the Rag-collecting Brigade are upon the whole satisfactory. It has attached to it eight trucks and forty boys, and the weight of goods collected during the year was 3,554*cwt.*, value 1,677*l.* The refuges continue to be conducted with the efficiency of former years. The committee express their thankfulness that the funds of the society were so largely increased at the close of the year, owing to the appeal made for funds in January by Lord Shaftesbury, and expressed its thanks to the donors, and to the press for the publication of his lordship's letter. The total amount received was 9,593*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*, and at the close of the financial year there was a balance in hand of 1,145*l.* The Earl of Shaftesbury regretted that, notwithstanding the progress of ragged-schools, the necessity for them was not only so great but even greater than when, twenty years ago, they were first established. The population which these schools were intended to benefit was, unhappily, continually on the increase, the very improvements which were going on tending to that end. Large blocks of houses were continually being swept away, the denizens of which went to crowd places already crowded. Of all the evils under which the working classes laboured, that of their domiciliary condition was the worst and the most fatal to morality and the spread of Christianity. The adoption of the report was moved by the Rev. C. Oakley, rector of St. Paul's, Covent-garden, who read several interesting letters which he had received from boys in various situations, who had been educated in Streatham-street ragged-schools. The other speakers were, the Rev. J. Rogers, the Rev.

Dr. Edmond, the Rev. C. Campe, John Glover, Esq.; Joseph Payne, Esq. (who announced that as his last appearance), the Rev. Mr. Wilson, &c., &c., and resolutions in accordance with the objects of the meeting were unanimously adopted.

NEW COLLEGE SOIREE.—On Saturday evening the annual *soirée* of the subscribers and friends of New College was held in the spacious library and numerous class-rooms of that institution. To judge from the number of the company assembled on the occasion we should say that the college is held in higher estimation than ever. The rooms were crowded to an almost inconvenient extent; and the visitors were most of them the *élite* of the denomination. Tea and coffee were provided from six to seven o'clock. The whole of the building was thrown open to the inspection of the visitors. The scientific apparatus belonging to Dr. Lankester's class-rooms, with stereoscopic and other views, was arranged upon the tables of the rooms, and elicited much interest. At seven o'clock as many of the friends as could gain admission assembled in the library. The leading members and laymen of the Congregational body in London were present, and after the singing of a hymn, a prayer was offered by the Rev. J. G. Miall, of Bradford. Dr. Halley, on behalf of the college, thanked the friends present on this occasion, and made special mention of some he was accustomed to see present, but who unfortunately were then absent. He was glad to see so many of the leading ministers present. There was first the president of the Congregational Union, and there were ex-presidents there, and there was the incoming president; and he doubted not many young men who one day would become presidents. He should call upon Mr. Allon first to address the meeting. He was glad to see him there on his own account, on the account of those whom he represented, viz., his predecessor, and also the council of Chesham College, and because his church subscribed to New College. He hoped also to hear Mr. Thomas, of Bristol, Mr. Binney, Mr. Reynolds, of Chesham, Mr. Parkinson, and one of the old students of the college. The meeting was then addressed by Mr. Allon, who expressed his warm sympathy with the college and its professors; by Rev. D. Thomas, of Bristol, who spoke with enthusiasm of the piety and learning of Professor Godwin. The sentiments of this speaker were warmly applauded. It was evident that the majority present were heartily rejoiced at the return of the professor from his tour for his health, and would have been still more rejoiced at his return to the chair of the Greek Testament professor. The Rev. T. Binney explained the reason why he had accepted the office of chairman to the council. After which, the Revs. R. W. Dale, Edward White, T. W. Aveling, A. M. Henderson, H. W. Parkinson, and W. Statham, addressed the meeting in an informal and colloquial manner.

(Continued in the Supplement.)

Postscript.

Wednesday, May 18, 1864.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

The great poisoning case in Paris has come to an end. Yesterday the jury found La Pommerais guilty of poisoning the widow De Pauw. No mention of extenuating circumstances was made by the jury, and the condemned man was sentenced to death.

The Copenhagen papers state on official authority that the Prussians in Jutland were continuing their confiscations of goods and horses up to the 14th. The wires from the Government telegraph lines were also cut, and carried away in many places.

A letter from Rome of the 17th says:—"The illness of the Pope continues, in spite of all the assertions to the contrary, and he is now confined to his bed. The general belief in an approaching fatal termination of his malady has greatly increased, and with it the conviction that the event will give rise to serious occurrences."

THE CONFERENCE.—The Plenipotentiaries accredited to the London Conference reassembled for the fifth meeting, at the appointed hour, one o'clock yesterday, at the official residence of the First Lord of the Treasury, in Downing-street. All the members were present. The debate at once proceeded upon the general question—the particular business of the day consisting of the propositions brought forward by the representatives of the German Powers; but the discussion, which was again protracted till four o'clock, led, we believe, to no immediate conclusion. Ultimately the Conference was adjourned to Saturday, the 28th instant.—*Telegraph.*

Viscount Palmerston has issued invitations for a full-dress dinner to a large circle of peers on the 24th inst., at Cambridge House, in celebration of her Majesty's birthday. Other Cabinet Ministers will give entertainments on the occasion.

MR. STANSFELD, M.P.—The people of Halifax yesterday showed their confidence in Mr. Stansfeld, M.P., by presenting him with a valuable piece of plate. The presentation was made before a meeting of between 8,000 and 10,000 persons. Mr. Stansfeld made a short, manly speech in acknowledgment of the gift, and narrated briefly the story of how he was hounded from office.

MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

The supply of English wheat on sale here to-day, was very moderate. The trade, however, ruled heavy for all qualities, at from 1*d.* to fully 2*d.* per quarter below the rates current at the close of last week. With foreign wheat, the market was but moderately supplied. For all descriptions, the demand was in a sluggish state, and prices had a downward tendency.

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The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 1864.

SUMMARY.

ENGLAND is rarely favoured with such magnificent holiday weather as has prevailed during the present Whitsun week; and, according to such evidence as is open to us, this season of recreation for the millions has not often been more universally observed or rationally enjoyed. The unusual conjunction of summer heat with a holiday ordinarily bleak and cheerless, has almost perforce driven our working population for enjoyment into the country. Crowded railway-stations, choked-up omnibuses, multitudinous van-loads of people thirsting for pure air, have been a marked characteristic of the week, and Nature has put on her best attire to welcome the thousands who have come forth from smoky cities and pent-up factories, to renovate their health, and indulge in harmless relaxation. The aspect of the metropolis and its suburbs during the last few days, even more than the statistics of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, have attested the general prosperity of our industrial classes.

A further index of that increasing intelligence and social improvement, which Mr. Gladstone has justly cited as a reason why working men should be admitted within the pale of the constitution, is to be found in the three days' conference, held during the week, to discuss the best means of promoting the efficiency of working men's clubs as educational institutions and instruments of social enjoyment and recreation. Artisans, in common with peers, statesmen, and clergymen, took part in the discussions, and one of the former spoke of the collection of herbs, grasses, and butterflies for home museums as the amusement of a large section of his order during their spare hours. If one-half of the many practical suggestions made in the course of the conference are carried out, these clubs will become powerful agents for the elevation of the masses. The knotty questions of religion and abstinence from intoxicating drinks were looked at on both sides, and the conference wisely decided to adopt no specific recommendations in reference to them, but leave each club to pursue its own course. The Working Men's Club and Institute Union deserves not only the thanks of the community for convening this conference, but the pecuniary help of all who, with the Bishop of London, regard these institutions "as likely to aid the religious and social well-being of the people."

The Conference on Danish affairs have held two sittings during the week, and yesterday adjourned for ten days, by which time one-half of the month's armistice between the belligerents will have expired. It seems that the difficulty of finding any basis for discussing the terms of peace is almost insuperable, in consequence of the "immense divergence" in the views of the several Powers represented. Prussia and Austria, claiming the rights of successful spoliators, decline any longer to recognise the Treaty of 1852, and are said to claim the Duchies as a territory conquered for Germany, the ruler of which ought to be chosen, not by the suffrages of the population, but by the vote of the Federal Diet! Their refusal to make any concessions would indicate that they are tacitly supported by one or more of the neutral Powers, whose regard for Denmark is lost in a desire to further their own selfish and recondite ends. It can hardly be expected that the German Governments which, during the suspension of hostilities continue to mulct the poor Jutlanders, and impress them to raze the fortifications of Fredericia, will yield anything to the persuasions of diplomacy.

At this juncture M. Rouher, the head of the French Council of State, and M. Persigny, the bosom friend of the Emperor Napoleon, have taken occasion to declare with emphasis the need of France for prolonged tranquillity. "I have pleasure in repeating with M. Berryer," said the

former last week in the Corps Législatif, "that peace is in the hand of France. But France will only open this hand when compelled to defend her honour or the inviolability of her frontiers." These declarations seem to be *apropos* of the supposed intention of France to "rectify" her eastern frontier, and of the complaint that she had not adequately supported Denmark. But the enormous increase of the funded debt of France, and an expanding domestic expenditure, irrespective of the aspect of foreign affairs, bind over our neighbours to keep the peace. M. Rouher, in speaking on the Danish question, could do no more than express a hope that a pacific solution would be arrived at by the London Conference.

We report elsewhere the annual meeting of the Peace Society, which through evil and good report holds aloft a principle, the realisation of which would more effectually subserve the beneficent aims of the great societies whose anniversaries have been held this month, than quadrupled subscriptions. Special commendation was bestowed upon the project of a European Congress by the Emperor Napoleon, which was so summarily rejected by our Government, though it would probably have averted the war which has lately desolated the Northern Duchies. The Peace Society pursues its course with unbroken faith in ultimate success. By many its objects are wildly ridiculed as Utopian. But is not the scheme of settling international differences by arbitration, and a mutual and simultaneous reduction of armaments, too hastily condemned as visionary? At all events the greatest potentate of Europe has unmistakeably declared in its favour, and the most matter-of-fact of English newspapers—the *Times* itself—has, by a curious coincidence, this very morning, published in the most prominent type an elaborate plan for a permanent European Congress, to meet periodically in the several capitals to settle the basis of an international code, and discuss such matters as form the subject of difference or correspondence between States, and amicably suggest measures for their adjustment. Mr. Elihu Burritt may well take heart at finding the ideas he has so many years laboured to realise discussed as practical questions by the leading journal of the world.

The continent of America continues on the tiptoe of expectation. Business of every kind and even speculation is paralysed in New York, awaiting the shock of arms between the gigantic forces arrayed against each other on the soil of Virginia. On both sides it is believed that the campaign which Generals Grant and Lee are respectively conducting will be decisive of the war, and both these commanders are acting with a secrecy, caution and deliberation proportionate to the magnitude of the issues at stake.

MR. GLADSTONE ON THE FRANCHISE.

We thank Mr. Baines most emphatically for the courage and ability with which he has advocated the question of an extension of the franchise to the working men. We thank him for his speech on Wednesday last—a speech which, if it stood alone, would have lured us into a strain of eulogy which, whilst it would have expressed nothing more than would be warranted by our thoughts and feelings, might perhaps have laid us open to the suspicion of personal or denominational partiality. But Mr. Baines will be among the foremost to admit that the character of the debate upon his motion, in the House of Commons, and the importance attaching to it, are owing mainly to the position assumed by Mr. Gladstone. It was not that his speech was more logical, more persuasive, more symmetrical than those of some other members—for, in our judgment, he has often done better in these respects. But it was that he who may be looked upon as the most promising statesman of the future, and the man whose words have the best likelihood of becoming facts, enounced the principle which lies at the base of all Parliamentary Reform, and gave Reformers a fresh glimpse of hope bright enough to dispel from their minds the murky atmosphere of despondency in which they have been enwrapped for some years past. This is the reason which gave to his utterance its power to stir the hearts of the nation—and this is our apology, if apology were either expected or needed, for confining our observations to Mr. Gladstone's share in the debate.

It would be impossible to describe, and difficult even to estimate, the sudden and immense relief which men in this country, heartily aspiring to political progress, have felt from the recalling their thoughts once more from the apparently hopeless chaos in which sham Liberalism has involved the domestic policy of this realm, to the recognition of a well-defined and commanding principle of justice. It stirs a

pulsation of new life in the national heart. It is like a breath of pure air to men who have long pined and sickened in a close chamber. It has stopped the process which was tending to exhaustion and death. It has made us cognisant of the fact that the organs of our political life are still sound, however disturbed and abnormal may have been their functions. It has dissipated the grim despair which weighed as an incubus upon our sympathies and expectations. We shall not go on to the end of the chapter in the present purposeless, capricious, hand-to-mouth style of legislation. The Liberal party will not continue to be a party without a principle, without a programme and without a bond of connexion—nor, we trust, will it be without a recognised leader. Mr. Gladstone has put an end to the vague and unmeaning distinction between Liberal Conservatism and Conservative Liberalism. He has boldly drawn the line on either side of which men will hereafter range themselves in antagonism according to their inmost political sympathies, instead of crowding as heretofore in pleasant confusion around a personage whose position rather than his convictions commanded their temporary adhesion. Realism will be substituted for nominalism. A moral purpose will take precedence of dexterous shifts and a quick-witted diplomacy. Our best instincts will once more come into play in reference to our home politics. We shall be men again—not mere heartless triflers. Mr. Gladstone has sounded out the key-note of a higher theme—and we shall be mistaken if the people do not take it up and draw it out into a grand and spirit-stirring national anthem.

And what was it in the speech of the right honourable gentleman which cleared at once so broad an interval between true Liberals and Conservatives? Not his declaration of repentant feeling over broken pledges and forgotten engagements on the question of Parliamentary reform, though this is matter for congratulation. Not his generous appreciation of the good qualities displayed by the working men, and his disposition to confide in them—though this indicated statesmanship of a higher order. The words which have awakened such a loud echo from every part of the kingdom, are as follows: "What I say is this, that every man who is not presumably incapacitated by some consideration of personal unfitness or political danger, is morally entitled to come within the pale of the constitution." This is the ultimate principle upon which representative government rests. This is the standard which the Chancellor of the Exchequer accepts as decisive. Of course, we are specially gratified at his having thus reverted to it, for we laboured with zeal and persistency more than twenty years ago to get it recognised. But Mr. Gladstone would work towards this standard cautiously. "Sudden changes," he says, "must be avoided—violent changes must be avoided—intoxicating changes must be avoided—but the right of the franchise where it is shown to exist—and I say it is shown to exist on the part of the select portion of the working classes whom I conceive to be represented by this bill—is not sufficiently met and repelled by the assertion that things are as well as they are. Those entertaining the sentiments I have referred to, are fit to discharge the duties of citizenship, and if fit to those duties they are entitled." And again, "I confess it is the opinion I venture to entertain, that if forty-nine fiftieths of the working classes are excluded from the franchise, it is upon those who maintain the exclusion that it principally rests to show the necessity of that exclusion."

We take it for granted, as we think we are fairly entitled to do, that these are not the unpremeditated utterances of a generous impulse stirred into sudden activity by the occasion. Mr. Gladstone had some time before intimated to a deputation of working men whom he received and entertained at his own house that he had views upon the question of the franchise which he would reserve for expression at the fitting time in the House of Commons. It may be concluded, therefore, that he has taken up his position deliberately, and on the ground, as he alleges, of moral considerations. We cannot fairly impute to him, as his predominant motive, political ambition. But he cannot, of course, be blind to the consequences which must result from the step he has so boldly taken. He has placed himself far in advance of the Cabinet of which he is a member. He has clearly denoted that the cause of Liberalism will not die when Lord Palmerston, either from infirmity or death, vacates his post. He has pointed to the goal in the direction of which he is ready, as occasion may allow and as prudence may suggest, to lead on the nation. He may have his faults. He may be deficient in some of the qualities which enter into good generalship. But he has plainly severed himself from the whole crowd of stationary and retrogressive politicians. If it should be his destiny to lead, we know whither

he will lead us. He will be no party to further delusions. He will not tie himself down to specific measures which may or may not satisfy popular expectation. He pledges himself to a principle which will expand as the need for its application expands. In his view, the Constitution should be made for and by the people, and not the people for and by the Constitution. He thus shows his qualification to be the Minister of the future.

And now we venture to cherish the hope that the approaching general election will turn upon something better than a choice of administrations. The words of Mr. Gladstone will kindle new life in the bosoms of working men, and the throb of it will surely be felt by the Liberal portion, at least, of the constituent bodies. Let us but be challenged to give a national verdict on the question raised by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and we shall be little disposed to confuse its distinctness by mixing it up with any others. The objects to which we attach no slight importance, may, under such circumstances, at least as far as our electoral action is concerned, remain in abeyance until this decision is given. Only, let us be assured that we are not to run after dreams any more. Let us have before us a responsible statesman whose word, like the Chancellor of the Exchequer's, is his bond. Then, it will be seen that we know how to forbear as well as how to make demands—and that great realities have as powerful a hold upon us now as at any previous period of our political history.

THE NEW HOLY ALLIANCE.

THE *Daily News* of Monday last brings under the notice of its readers a correspondence which has been going on for the last four months between the Cabinets of St. Petersburg, Berlin, and Vienna, extracts from which have already been given to the public in foreign journals. The correspondence, if authentic, of which there appears no reason to doubt, shows that a secret understanding has all along existed between Russia, Prussia, and Austria, as to the assault made by the German Powers on Denmark, and suggests the probability that the pretensions urged by the latter in the Conference now sitting to discover, if possible, the way to a restoration of peace, will be artfully but systematically supported by the Russian plenipotentiaries. It seems that Russia, in exchange for Prussian and Austrian aid in crushing the Polish insurrection, and in consideration of an alliance offensive and defensive between the three Courts to resist the formation of a powerful Scandinavian kingdom, which would militate against her maritime ascendancy in the Baltic, has engaged to give her support to the policy of the two military Powers of Germany in regard to the Duchies. On the other hand, between Austria and Prussia a compact has been made to guarantee the Italian possessions of the former against any attack by the Kingdom of Italy. The despatch of Prince Gortschakoff, which supported the maintenance intact of the integrity of the Danish monarchy, was written to paralyse the warlike tendencies of England, and was forwarded to the Prussian Government with a confidential communication explaining to M. Bismarck the motives and objects which dictated it. On the whole, it may be gleaned from this correspondence that Russia has offered to support, "by all means," the separation of the Duchies from Denmark, and their union with Germany, on condition that the German Powers unite with her in preventing the aggrandisement of Sweden.

If there be substantial truth in this account—and it must be admitted that it thoroughly explains the peremptory and somewhat insolent bearing of Austria and Prussia throughout the Schleswig-Holstein business—it furnishes an additional ground for congratulation that England did not allow her sympathies to get the better of her prudence, and plunge into war in support of the claims of Denmark. That the little kingdom has been grievously maltreated is clear enough. That, in her case, might has trampled right under its hoofs, excites our indignation. That the crime will be visited with retribution is our firm belief. But that it behoved this country to expose all the interests of her own children to ruinous damage in vindication of Denmark's claim to the Duchies, we never could admit—and it is now obvious that if we had felt it our duty to attempt it, we should have placed ourselves in a position of fearful peril, more especially as it was impossible to fathom the probable designs of France in case of our having ventured to encounter single-handed the Northern Powers.

But the correspondence, if authentic, will have shown more than this. It will have read us a stern lesson on the unanticipated mischiefs which result from too meddling and pretentious a mode of conducting our diplomacy. It may be

safely inferred that if we had contented ourselves with an earnest moral protest against the policy of Russia in regard to Poland, and had not attempted to overawe by a show of menace a Power whom we did not seriously intend to restrain by force of arms, the Danish war would not have been heard of. We exasperated Russia by saying too much—we disappointed France by doing too little. We created the occasion and facility for Prussia to profit by our mistake, and to plan and mature that conspiracy of despotic Governments of which we see the first-fruits in the spoliation of Denmark, but of which we have probably realised the first-fruits only. We greatly fear that, without intending any such thing, we have made bitter enemies of most of the Powers of Europe. We have diplomatically interposed so often for their good, and have brought upon them such unexpected trains of evil, that those on whose behalf we interfered, as well as those we have ineffectually sought to restrain, equally distrust us, and would equally be pleased to see us humbled. If there be a revival of a *quasi* Holy Alliance, we may thank our officious diplomacy for it. When we were less absorbed in what we dignify by the name of "our foreign policy," and gave more attention to our home concerns, our example did more to sap the foundations of absolutism on the Continent, and the prospects of Europe were far more promising, than has been the case ever since we accepted for our political chief a man who would be everything in the affairs of other nations, and is nothing in those of his own. We are only sorry that he has infected Earl Russell with his spirit.

And now, we believe, the wisest, safest, and most dignified course for England to pursue will be to let all the States of Europe know that her own interests are too complicated and vast to admit of her taking an active part in regulating the affairs of continental peoples. The new Holy Alliance, founded in contempt of the spirit of the age, will speedily come to nothing unless we shall persuade ourselves that we are bound, in the interests of humanity, to prevent it falling to pieces by a natural process of disintegration. Neither Prussia nor Austria could subsist as despotic Powers without incessant excitement in their foreign policy—and if we refused to minister to that excitement, there would be a great additional chance of their being compelled to heed the desires of their own subjects. This Danish question will settle itself somehow, and be forgotten. The sword will have to be sheathed. The bill will have to be paid. Then will come the retribution of monarchical ambition, duplicity, and craft. The Germans will be obliged to attend once more to their domestic condition and interests. Possibly we shall yet witness another upheaving such as shook every continental throne in 1848. Of this we are confident, that the spirit which pervades Europe will not be finally subdued, or for any great length of time suppressed, by any alliances which may be formed by Royal and Imperial Houses.

NOTES OF THE SESSION.

THE reform debate in the House of Commons on Wednesday promises to be the most memorable of the Session—certainly the most far-reaching in its results upon the political condition of England. None has created so great a flutter in the purlieus of Pall Mall, nor so completely disarranged the schemes of party politicians. Mr. Baines, in moving the second reading of his Bill for reducing the borough franchise to 6*l*., had an unanswerable case in the remarkable progress of the working classes since the Reform Bill of 1832; and he piled up before an audience loth to be convinced the proofs of their increasing intelligence, industry, providence, and moderation. Even less palatable were his successive quotations from the speeches of Conservative members of the present Parliament—there was a list of no less than sixty produced—in favour of an extension of the franchise, when the question seemed likely to answer party ends. Such an appeal in support of a Bill the principles of which nearly every one had acknowledged by speech or vote, could only be answered in one way—by moving the previous question. The welcome task was undertaken by Mr. Cave, a Conservative-Liberal, who was backed up by Mr. Marsh, a Liberal-Conservative.

Then rose the Chancellor of the Exchequer, to dissipate with a breath that system of "organised hypocrisy" which has so long been accepted on both sides of the House as the most convenient mode of cushioning Parliamentary Reform. In the absence of the Prime Minister (through illness), of his leading colleagues, and the chief Opposition members, he delivered the speech upon which we have commented in another column. The effect of this political manifesto

on the Opposition benches is thus graphically described in the *Leeds Mercury* by an eye-witness of the scene:—

It was very interesting, and even amusing, to watch the countenances of the country gentlemen, as the great orator poured forth his torrent of eloquence—not so much, however, a torrent on this occasion as a solemn stately stream,—

"Strong without rage, without overflowing full."

As he went on stating the case for reform, the Opposition were evidently thinking to themselves, "Oh, this is only the house of cards, which he is building up in order to knock down again." But as he still proceeded with his task, and the pile of fact and argument grew compact, symmetrical, and complete, the gentlemen on the Speaker's left began to look a little uneasy. They wore a puzzled look, put their heads together for whispered conference in the pauses of the speech, and were manifestly wondering—when is he going to insert the pick? At last out came the truth—Mr. Gladstone was really a reformer, and a thorough one. The Conservative ranks sat absolutely aghast when he flung at their heads the doctrine that on them lay the onus of proving that the forty-nine fiftieths of the working classes now excluded from the franchise were unfit to exercise it. Their dream faded at the words. They had so long talked of reform as a myth, a mere ghost of an idea, that they had acquired an implicit belief that such was the case. Hence the sudden apparition of the great cause as a living reality, announcing its existence through the mouth of the most eloquent Minister of the Crown, was a great shock to them. They felt that now this question barred the path to office that had seemed so clear; and they were seized with a hot and cold fit of mingled rage and downheartedness.

The thunderbolt thus launched created equal consternation on the Ministerial benches, where it must have been felt that the game of playing at reform and hood-winking confiding constituents, was at an end, and that the day of retribution was at hand. Indeed two of these *quasi*-Liberals, Mr. Somerset Beaumont and Mr. Greenall, were unable to conceal their chagrin at the position in which Mr. Gladstone had placed them. But it was necessary that the Chancellor's speech should be met by something more than "inarticulate reasoning"—a very mild description of the Opposition clamour—on the Conservative benches, and in the discreet absence of Mr. Disraeli, ever-ready, unscrupulous, discursive, and witty Mr. Whiteside was put up to deaden the effect of Mr. Gladstone's speech; to show that it was no more than an eccentric isolated effusion, opposed to the views of the Prime Minister and his Cabinet, and designed for electioneering purposes, and to provoke popular discontent. After this outburst of rambling rhetoric, the House was clamorous for division, barely heard Mr. Forster, who rejoiced in the advent of a period when England would be no longer open to the reproach of lagging behind all Christian civilised countries in the share of political power which it accorded to its working classes, and summarily put down Mr. Watkin in his maiden speech. A majority of 56 in a House of 588 members, decided, amid somewhat feeble Conservative cheers, that the question should not be put. Thus was terminated the last discussion, in the present Parliament, of the Reform question. Next year it will be revived, under very altered circumstances, upon the hustings.

On Thursday, after an audacious misrepresentation of the grounds and character of the opposition to the Annuity-tax in Edinburgh by the Lord Advocate, the question of the educational inspectors' report came up on the motion of Sir George Grey, for a select committee to inquire into the practice of the Committee of Council in dealing with those documents. Sir John Pakington wished to enlarge the scope of the inquiry, so as to embrace the consideration of the constitution and practice of the Education Office, but failed to obtain the requisite support. Mr. Osborne availed himself of the opportunity to give utterance to some unpalatable truths. Why, he asked, had not the Government proposed to rescind the unjust vote of censure passed upon Mr. Lowe, which was followed by his resignation, instead of an inquiry after the lapse of four weeks, which was like trying a man after hanging him? To this inquiry there was no reply, for no satisfactory explanation could be given. Mr. Lowe has, by means of his Revised Code, succeeded in cutting down the educational vote 100,000*l*. during the past year—a saving of the public money which has raised against him a host of enemies, and led to the desertion of lukewarm friends. But the whole drift of Thursday's discussion helped to expose still further the evils and anomalies of the hybrid and costly system of national education, which has raised up a formidable vested interest in the public money, and from which it is so difficult to obtain adequate results.

The lengthened debate which occupied the greater part of Friday night's sitting of the Commons shows, at least, the unfounded nature of the charge that our Government have observed a one-sided neutrality in the American war to the serious detriment of the Confederates. British shipbuilders have furnished the South with vessels of war equipped in this country which have destroyed Federal property at sea to

an estimated value of three millions sterling, and practically ruined the commercial marine of the North. In fact, the greater part of the trade with America is now carried on with British ships. Mr. Thomas Baring, *apropos* of the arrival of the Georgia at Liverpool, asked whether the Government thought the admission of such vessels to British harbours consistent with our international obligations, our professions of neutrality, and the preservation of British interests. In a long, able, and learned reply, the Attorney-General contended that there had been no violation of international law on our part, and that, though the Foreign Enlistment Act was imperfect, it must be left to take its course. The Government had, indeed, the power of excluding such cruisers from British ports, but did not think it expedient to assert the right. But it was pointed out to him that in practice a precedent has been set which will tell greatly against this country in any future war; and we cannot but agree with Mr. Forster that Her Majesty's Ministers have let slip the opportunity which this sorrowful war had offered of putting the international law into a state that would be to our advantage and beneficial to the interests of civilisation. At the same time, it may be doubted whether the House of Commons would agree to any proposal to amend the Foreign Enlistment Act, so that it might suffice to effect those objects for which it was originally framed.

After the rush of members to dinner which followed this lengthened discussion, Mr. Morritt rose to move a resolution in favour of the "consideration" of the malt-tax—a subject of no further practical interest, for this Session at least. An untimely joke cut short his speech. Sarcas- tically alluding to "the extremely crowded state of the House," the Speaker, now that his attention had been called to the subject, felt bound to count the members present, and not finding the required forty, the adjournment for the Whitsun holidays took place, amid much laughter at the expense of the unfortunate joker who had put an extinguisher on himself.

MAY.

There was a time when we held the almost universal creed that Nature had decidedly deteriorated since we were boys. When we were young the earth seemed young; now that we were old the earth is old, and getting like ourselves, grey and wrinkled, and somewhat feeble,—no, not quite that yet, but certainly stiff and heavy. There were days when we could see the fields smile, hear the trees laugh, and the little trees "clap their hands." And now? Well, we have returned, after many years, to the belief of our boyhood. Mr. Dickens may write as he likes about the old green field with its gently-waving trees, where the birds sang as a man has never heard them since; where the butterfly fluttered far more gaily than he ever sees him now in all his ramblings; where the sun shone more brightly; where the air blew more fresh over greener grass and sweeter smelling flowers; and where everything wore a richer and more brilliant hue than it is ever dressed in now; and Mr. Tennyson may say that "those old Mays had thrice the life of these," and make his talking oak speak of the "good old summers" of his youth, but depend upon it it is all a mistake. We daresay

"The days were brief
Whereof the poets talk,
When that which breathes within the leaf,
Could slip its bark and walk,"

and that they have passed away, never again to return, but the young earth is as bright, beautiful, cheerful, and happy as it was say forty years ago. Do you think that forty years make any difference to such a world as ours? Perhaps they do, a little, but if anything they have made it a shade more lovely. The earth has been growing in beauty from the day of its creation. Every century sees it more and more covered with grass, and trees, and fruit, and flowers. Your children look upon a more dazzling sight than you did. They do not think that there is anything to find fault with in the fields; that the daisies are dull, or the buttercups not so very brilliant after all; and if we could only have back the heart of a little child, we should never complain of them. Ah! we had eyes then to see, and we could see; ears to hear, and we could hear; hearts rippling over with their abundant love, and how we loved! Lord! that we might have again the heart of a little child!

If, however, you are at all sceptical, now that you are growing old, concerning the magnificent beauty of the earth—if you are inclined to think that the colours of nature are sadder than they were, and have been gradually approaching a neutral tint, you should take a walk abroad in this month of May,

1864. If ever the old May of the poets has revisited the earth she has done so now; but we believe that we see her in a richer and more gorgeous apparel than did either Dryden or Milton. Yet how she inspired them both:—

"For thee the Graces lead the dancing hours,
And Nature's ready pencil paints the flowers."

But Milton sang best in those old and never too familiar lines that seem to have been written by the Spirit of May herself:—

"The flowery May, who from her green lap throws
The yellow cowslip and the pale primrose;
Hail! bounteous May, that dost inspire
Mirth and youth and warm desire;
Woods and groves are of thy dressing,
Hill and dale doth boast thy blessing."

Music, too, since their day, has been interpreting the month, and we have found that she is a better interpreter than even poetry. Mendelssohn has taught many of us what we guessed not before, so that the world is not only fairer than it was, but we have means of understanding it better than our forefathers. No, not understanding it, for the understanding has no sympathy, but worshipping with it.

How is it that people cling so to this brick wilderness of London? We have met some who never seem to care to get out of it—we mean to get right out of it—for in your "suburban villa" the giant city is still clasping you in his arms. There are merchants who never take a single good holiday. What an effect this has upon them they do not know, but their friends can too plainly see. They grow hard as the bricks amongst which they live, and narrow as the streets they traverse. Some young ladies, and even elderly ladies, are as bad, who stay in-doors, in the brightest weather, from Monday to Saturday, and who only yearn for the open air when, as a natural consequence, they are sick in bed and cannot get it. Will not this month of May, through which we are now living, entice them out? If it will not, nothing will; and, but that none of us could bear our deserts, we should have it in hearts to say they deserve to be confined to streets and houses for the remainder of their natural lives.

One day last week we took an old and familiar walk which we take, if we can, two or three times every year,—a walk of four miles from a certain railway station not very far from London Bridge. We went on purpose to see the hills and fields and trees, and we saw them, it seemed to us, as we had never seen them before. Talk about boyish days! nothing ever equalled the panorama through which we walked. We saw honeysuckles covering a cottage porch in such profusion that we had to go close up to them to be sure that they could flower with such prodigality. All along, as we travelled, the bosky hills, with a foreground of parks, were on our right; on our left were fields and gardens and meadows. Here, were acres of grass made golden with buttercups, and there, some white, like frosted silver, with daisies. One field we shall never forget. As we approached it we saw it shimmer in the wind with a dark blue surface. Another minute and the scent of wild hyacinths was wafted to us. It was almost more a field of flowers than of grass. Then the banks and hedges! The flowering trees lined nearly all the road. Girlish-looking, "golden-tressed" laburnams hanging down with weight of flower; crowded lilacs, modest May, stately chestnuts with their towers of blossom, mountain ashes with their snowy flower. Here and there, on house-side, were spreading westerlins, with weighty bunches like grapes of Eshool. Now, you caught sight of a dark cedar of Lebanon, and in another minute a gay apple orchard came in view, while ever and anon a chattering, talking, laughing, dreaming river ran along before your eyes. This is the month of May.

We spent three or four hours after this walk in a garden overhanging some two hundred feet, by the "everlasting hills." Here we sat and looked and listened, trying to see and hear all there was to be seen and heard, but painfully conscious how deaf and blind we were. This is the sad feeling that one always has in the midst of beautiful scenery. You know that there is so much more than you, with your half-blinded sight, can see. You know that a "yellow primrose" is, after all, very little more to you than it was to Peter Bell, "a yellow primrose nothing more." You feel that you ought to enjoy the earth more, and be in closer communion with Nature. You are conscious that you do not understand a thousandth part of what is around you. There are moments when a whisper seems to come, but it is almost inarticulate, and it dies away before you can catch its full meaning. But a patient knocking at the door will sometimes have its reward—if you do not knock with too clayey fingers and brick-encased heart. For ourselves, we knocked patiently, but we were afraid too loud, but for simply

knocking we were sent away with a lighter spirit, and that was no little gain.

He who will go forth from his hive in such a month as this will come back more or less laden with honey. There is not a tree but will yield something, not a breath of scented air that will not make the temper sweeter. We can never come in contact with the works of God without their speaking to us, but just as people who have lived many years away from their native land may forget its tongue, so may we forget and become deaf to the voice of God in His works. But His palace is always there, and in the month of May, as you may find, the door sometimes standeth wide open. Happy he who may so see and so find; for perchance he may even meet with the Creator of all!

Parliamentary Proceedings.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

On Thursday, in the House of Lords, the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH called attention to the alleged kidnapping of British subjects to serve in the Federal army. He asked what steps had been taken by the Government to protect her Majesty's subjects. Earl RUSSELL said Lord Lyons had made repeated complaints, but had not yet received any satisfactory answer. One of the cases alluded to by the Earl of Ellenborough had been investigated by the United States authorities, but in a most unsatisfactory manner. It would give him great pleasure to be able to bring the United States Government to put an end to such practices.

Several bills having been advanced a stage, The Marquis of WESTMEATH moved for copies of correspondence respecting the release by the Lord Lieutenant of three men convicted of agrarian outrages at the Westmeath Assizes of 1862. The effect of such a policy of leniency was to encourage Ribbonism. Earl GRANVILLE declined to produce the correspondence. In the case referred to the usual course had been taken. After some discussion, however, Earl Granville consented to give the papers, and the motion was agreed to.

The House adjourned at twenty-five minutes past six.

On Friday, the Royal assent was given by commission to the following bills:—The Customs and Inland Revenue Bill; Charitable Assurance Enrolments; Land Drainage (Provisional Orders); High Court of Chancery (Despatch of Business); Promissory Notes and Bills of Exchange (Ireland); Joint Stock Companies (Foreign Countries); and a number of private bills.

WAR CONTRIBUTIONS IN JUTLAND.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH denounced the conduct of the German Powers towards Denmark as most tyrannical and unjust. The German Powers had used their artillery and musketry to butcher the subjects of the King of Denmark—to make a German holiday of the slaughter, and he maintained that they had no right to interfere in Schleswig beyond what they had originally extorted by a wrong, and he could not recognise any right which proceeded from an act of injustice.

It is impossible to conceal from ourselves the fact,—indeed, it is admitted by Herr von Bismarck—that this is a war against freedom carried on by the despotic Powers of Germany. Forgetting that they dominate in Venetia, and are masters of a large Polish population, they make this war in the name of nationality. (Hear, hear.) They bring their might to bear against right, their strength against weakness; and, above all, they endeavour to overwhelm by their military strength all the resistance that can be brought against them by a thoroughly free people. I say it is might against right. The war is altogether an unjust war. (Loud cheers.)

Prussia had shown herself servile before Russia and rapacious towards Denmark, and the time would come when she herself would be desirous to look round for allies. He put several questions as to the levying of contributions of war during the armistice.

Earl RUSSELL said it was the duty of the conference to come to some understanding, but he had been obliged to lay down a rule not to give any explanations of what took place in the conference during the time the conference was sitting. With respect to the question of the armistice, he felt that he might make an exception. The conference had agreed that during the suspension of arms, there should not be levied, either in Jutland or elsewhere, any contributions of war, and that all articles taken should be paid for. The conference being anxious to stop the effusion of blood, did not lay down any rules, but left the details to the commanders of the respective forces. The spirit of the article, however, was that no contribution should be enforced during the suspension of arms. The noble lord condemned the practice of levying contributions, as contrary to the practice of civilised warfare.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH deeply regretted that the conference had not strictly prohibited the enforcement of the contributions previously imposed, which it appeared to him could and would be still collected. It so happened that the contribution of 650,000 thalers was imposed on the very day on which the conference last sat, viz., the 9th.

THE OXFORD PROFESSORSHIP OF GREEK.

On the motion for going into committee on the Regius Professorship of Greek (Oxford) Bill, Lord LYTTELTON presented petitions from clergymen against the bill. Lord CHELMSFORD opposed the bill. A discussion followed, in which Lord TAUNTON, the Earl of DERBY, the Lord CHANCELLOR, and several

other noble lords, took part. After some discussion, Lord REDESDALE moved "the previous question." The previous question having been carried by a majority of 55 to 25, the further progress of the bill is arrested.

Their Lordships adjourned at 7.10 until Monday, the 23rd inst.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

BOROUGH FRANCHISE BILL.

On Wednesday, Mr. BAINES moved the second reading of this bill, the object of which is to reduce the qualification to 64. He observed he was about to address an aristocratic assembly, in which his clients, the working classes, were unrepresented. His object was to bring the representative system lower, so as to include a large portion of that class. As the only formal opposition to this bill was to be the moving of the "previous question," he assumed that its principle was conceded, and that objection would be made to the inopportune of the time for bringing it forward; but he thought that the approaching termination of the present Parliament was a favourable moment for dealing with the question of the franchise. He controverted the argument which he anticipated would be used, that such a measure was not called for by the class to whom it applied, and urged that he and a number of other members of this Parliament pledged themselves at the last election to endeavour to obtain a larger measure of reform than that proposed by Lord Derby's Government. Besides which, he thought it was a fallacy to assert that the House was to wait for popular pressure before it inaugurated reforms. However a combination of circumstances might have intervened to prevent the attention of the public being directed to this question, he denied that there was any change of opinion with regard to it; and he argued that it would be far better to yield to this opinion in the present calm condition of the public mind, than to wait until reform was demanded by the power of popular agitation. The hon. gentleman stated that numerous members of the Conservative party—upwards of sixty—in the house had declared themselves in favour of an extension of the franchise to the working classes, and he quoted their recorded opinions to that effect. He next argued that the increase of education and the moral condition and intelligence of the working classes were such as to entitle them to the franchise. He based this argument, in the first instance, on the facts, that the number of day-scholars in England and Wales had increased, since 1831, from one in seventeen of the population to one in six; and, secondly, on the increase of popular literature, showing that the circulation of newspapers, both daily and weekly, had increased from thirty-eight millions in 1831 to five hundred and forty-six millions five hundred and ninety-four, or more than thirteen hundred per cent. A proportionate increase had taken place in magazines, periodicals, and serials; one fact being notable, that immoral publications had sunk from 52,000 to 9,000, while freethinking works were below 5,000, the actual increase being fifteen-fold beyond the circulation of 1831. All this had been brought about by the action of the intelligent, industrious, steady, settled, and provident portion of the working classes, and it was on them that he asked the House to confer the franchise. The effect of the proposition contained in the bill would be to add 246,000 to the existing number of 487,000 borough electors, a moderate and a safe addition to our representative system. If a considerable number of the sons of industry were admitted to the franchise, they would prove a defence to the Throne, a great accession to our strength in war, and to our prosperity in peace. (Hear, hear.) With the seer of old, speaking of an ancient people, he believed he might say to constitutional England—"Lengthen thy cords and strengthen thy stakes." (Cheers.)

Mr. CAVE moved the "previous question," and said that he did so with a view to show that he was not opposed to the extension of the franchise to the working classes; so far from that, he proceeded to pass a strong eulogium on the conduct of that class under circumstances of trial and difficulty, and argued that it was the conduct of a people satisfied with their institutions. He also argued generally against the conferring of the franchise on the masses of the industrial classes indiscriminately, and that a six-pound franchise would work unequally towards a large body of the middle class who were fully entitled to votes. He contended that the present moment was even less opportune than 1861 for meddling, if not peddling, with our institutions. He must say he had no great faith in symmetrical constitutions. He preferred that which worked fairly to that which ought to work perfectly. England should remember the epitaph on a tombstone, "I was well; I wanted to be better; and here I am."

Mr. MARSH seconded the amendment, on the ground that no one seemed to want the proposed reform; and he confessed that he himself had constituents enough; that the reduction of the franchise would increase bribery, and that the interests of the working classes were well considered by the House.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that although there was a general admission that this was not a time at which it would be advisable for the Government to introduce a comprehensive measure of Parliamentary Reform, yet he could not consent to the amendment, which went to deny, as he was of opinion, that the question of the reduction of the

franchise ought to be discussed, and if possible settled. He controverted the propositions that the lowering of the franchise would increase bribery, and that no one desired such a measure, and while admitting that the interests of the working class were well looked after in that House, denied that it was an argument against a sensible and considerable addition to that infinitesimal number of that class which possessed the franchise. The working class constituted less than one-tenth of the constituencies, while one-fiftieth of them were excluded from the franchise, and it was for the opponents of this measure to show that those who were excluded were unworthy of it.

Is that a state of things which it would be "a domestic revolution" to meddle with? (Cheers.) I contend, then, that it is on the honourable gentleman that the burden of proof lies—"Oh, oh," from the Opposition—that it is on those who say it is necessary to exclude forty-nine fiftieths that the burden of proof rests; that is for them to show the unworthiness, the incapacity, and the misconduct of the working classes. ("Oh, oh, from the Opposition, and counter cheers.") I am sorry to find that it is thought necessary to argue this question by what, perhaps, to use a mild phrase, I may call "inarticulate reasoning"—(laughter)—and I will endeavour not to provoke more of it from a certain quarter of the House than I can help. (Hear, hear.) But it is an opinion which I entertain that if forty-nine-fiftieths of the working classes are to be excluded from the franchise, it is upon those who maintain that exclusion that it rests to show its necessity. (Hear, hear.)

As to the argument that the working class did not agitate for this privilege, nothing was to be more deprecated than waiting for such an agitation as that which caused the working man to sacrifice his time and his labour for the attainment of political purposes. He contended earnestly that it was a fallacy to suppose that if the suffrage extension was given to the working body they would act together as a class, and set up class interests and antagonisms. He showed that the Reform Bill of 1832 had greatly decreased the possession of the franchise by the abolition of scot-and-lot voters and others of cognate description, and this was an argument in favour of the claim of the working class to an extension of the suffrage. He pointed out the change which had taken place in the relations between the working classes and the laws, the institutions, the government, and the throne of this country, in the last half-century, a period which, recent as regarded chronology, was in fact and sentiment a far distant epoch. Now, the fixed traditional sentiment of the working man was confidence in the law, in Parliament, and in the Government. (Cries of "No, no," and laughter.) He quoted the language of an address from working men in the Potteries adopted last autumn in support of these views, and as indicating the general sentiments of the enlightened working men of the country. It might, however, be said that such statements prove the existing state of things to be satisfactory.

But what I would say in reply to that argument is this, that every man who is not presumably incapacitated by some consideration of personal unfitness or political danger is morally entitled to come within the pale of the Constitution. (Cheers and counter cheers.) Of course, the meaning of that is this—(laughter)—that sudden, violent, and intoxicating changes must be avoided, but that fitness for the franchise, when it is shown to exist—as I say it is shown to exist in the case of a select portion of the working classes—is not repelled on sufficient grounds from the pillar of the Constitution by the allegation that things are as well as they are. (Cheers.) I contend, moreover, that persons entertaining such sentiments as those to which I have referred are fit to discharge the duties of citizenship, and that to admission to the discharge of those duties they are entitled. (Hear, hear.)

He denied that there was such a virtue in the middle class as to justify the drawing of a sharp line between that class and the working class. The upper portion of the latter were certainly not inferior to the lower portion of the former in self-command, self-control, respect for order, patience under suffering, confidence in the law, and regard for his superiors. He cited the admirable conduct of the Lancashire operatives during the cotton famine, and the marvellous success of the co-operative movement, in proof of this position. The right hon. gentleman concluded by saying:—

I believe that the most blessed of all social progresses is that which consists in the amalgamation together of the interests of all classes of the community; and the forgetting of those distinctions which tend to keep men asunder. (Hear, hear.) I know of nothing which could contribute in any degree comparable to that union to the welfare of the commonwealth. It is all very well to have armies, fleets, and fortifications, and to have them sustained as they ought to be by a sound system of finance, and out of a revenue not wasted by a profligate Parliament, or a profligate Administration. But that which is more important still is that hearts should be bound together by a reasonable extension among selected portions of the people of a privilege to which they have a just title, and it is because I think that it will tend to that binding and knitting of hearts together, and thus to the infusion of new vigour into the old, but in the best sense still young and flourishing, British constitution that I, for one, am prepared to give my support to the motion of the honourable member for Leeds. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. WHITESIDE thought they had reason to deplore the absence of the noble viscount at the head of the Government more than once during their recent discussions. (Cheers.) He might have been useful in those cases in which they might expect to have from him a satisfactory reply to his refractory Chancellor of the Exchequer. (Cheers and laughter.)

Referring to the rejection of recent reform bills, he protested against portions of those measures being taken and brought before the House as a settlement of the question, and expressed his opinion that Mr. Gladstone believed that the present bill would not pass, and only used it as a favourable opportunity for making a little political capital. When a conference was sitting upon Denmark—and there was, he supposed, a prospect of an early dissolution—it was advisable to make a speech which was to lead to nothing—(loud cheers)—and to announce to the working classes of this country, who were not to be caught with chaff, that at some indefinite time, in some indefinite manner, by somebody, nobody could tell whom, a bill would be introduced which would recognise their many virtues and acknowledge their growth in knowledge and industry. He had heard nothing to induce him to think that Mr. Gladstone spoke the sentiments of his chief, and, therefore, regarded his speech as only an electioneering manifesto. In discussing the merits of the bill, he remarked that it would apply not to the large cities, but to particular boroughs in the kingdom; and that the influx of great bodies of men into the constituency in this manner might be a dangerous political experiment, which could never be reversed. Was it the time for making an experiment on a great scale in the direction of democracy when the democratic principle was on its trial. (Cheers.) The moderation of the member for Leeds greatly contrasted with the extravagance of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, whose arguments pointed directly to universal suffrage. (Loud cheers.) The working classes were invited to imagine a grievance and agitate. "Have you nothing to complain of?" they were asked by Mr. Gladstone. What was their reply?—"Well, no complaint in particular, except the dispersing of the meeting on Primrose-hill and the sending away of Garibaldi, and we come to complain of your conduct on that occasion." (Much laughter.) The Chancellor of the Exchequer entered into a long historical disquisition, and went back as far as the time of Lord Castlereagh. If that statesman were now our Foreign Minister, England would not be the laughing stock of Europe. (Loud and prolonged cheering, which began on the left hand of the Speaker and rolled round the lower end of the House to the benches below the gangway at the Ministerial side.) Lord Castlereagh was a Minister who knew how to assert the dignity and power of England at the right moment—(Hear, hear)—and, as M. Thiers said, he achieved more than the great leaders who conducted the armies and fleets of England to victory. He concluded by asking the House to refuse its assent to an experiment the consequences of which could not be foreseen, and to preserve to posterity the incalculable blessings which gentlemen bringing forward this motion admitted that the people ought to possess, and might they long continue to enjoy! (Loud cheers.)

Mr. FORSTER said that the Conservatives were evidently about to return to their old policy of preserving the constitution from encroachments. For his own part he denied that a bill which in a town like Bradford would compose less than a third of the constituency of working men, could fairly be stigmatised as a domestic revolution. The conduct of the Government hitherto had been marked by hesitation and indifference on Reform questions; but after the speech of the right hon. gentleman it would be difficult for them to continue that policy; and the sooner the country knew where it was, and with whom it was dealing, on home questions the better. (Hear, hear.) If, which he very much doubted, the present constituencies were Conservative on all constitutional grounds, let them have a Conservative Government carried on upon Conservative principles by acknowledged Conservatives, and not a Conservative Government, carried on by Liberal leaders on professedly Liberal principles. ("Hear," and laughter.) It might be that the country would first have to pass through a Conservative Government; but the time was certainly hastening on when it would no longer be open to the reproach of lagging behind all Christian civilised countries in the share of political power which it accorded to its working classes. ("Hear," and cries of "Divide.")

Mr. NEWDEGATE opposed the bill, upon the grounds that it was a partial measure and would strengthen the dominant class in boroughs.

Mr. BASS and Lord FERMOY spoke in favour of the bill; Lord H. SOULT and Mr. S. BEAUMONT opposed it.

Mr. WATKIN, who spoke amidst great interruption, supported the second reading on the ground that there were numbers of the working men throughout the country who were qualified to exercise the franchise, and yet they were without power to do so.

Mr. GREENALL was as favourable as any hon. gentleman in that House to a fair, a liberal, and a just extension of the suffrage. (Cheers.) But he should vote most unhesitatingly against the bill of the hon. member for Leeds—(cheers and laughter)—because he regarded it as unfair, unequal, and calculated in its action to do more harm than good to the cause of reform.

Sir J. ELPHINSTONE, who was met with loud cries of "Divide," said he would most assuredly tell his constituents where reform originated in that House, and how it was defeated; and in doing so he would not shrink from naming those who had reduced the question of reform to an organised hypocrisy. (Hear, hear.)

The House then divided, when the numbers were—

Ayes	...	...	...	...	216
Noes	...	...	...	...	272
Majority	...	...	...	...	—56

The question was therefore not put. The announcement of the numbers was received with cheers from the Opposition.

The other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned at a quarter before six o'clock.

EDINBURGH ANNUITY-TAX.

On Thursday, in reply to Mr. Caird, the LORD ADVOCATE said he was informed that the reports of the disturbances at the seizures for ministers' money in Edinburgh were much exaggerated. The arrears of the tax were less than the customary allowance. He could not tell the exact number of those who had refused to pay, but the average for the four years previous to 1860 had numbered 3,269, while the average of the four years since that date was 4,976, a difference of no great importance. The Government did not propose to propose any alteration in the law on the subject.

Mr. BRIGHT wished to know if the date of the letter received by the learned lord was as late as the preceding evening, because he saw from the papers that morning that a serious tumult had taken place on Wednesday, and that the gathering was estimated to have numbered 10,000 people.

The LORD ADVOCATE said that he had received his letter that day. There was no allusion in it to the case to which the hon. gentleman had referred, and the only information which he had received upon the subject was what had that morning been published in the newspapers.

AUTHORITY OF THE POLICE.

In reply to Mr. Whalley, Sir G. GREY said he did not think the letter of instructions given to the police authorised them, without having recourse to the authority of the commissioner or assistant commissioner of police, to disperse meetings in the parks held on other days than Sundays. The public notice which had been issued distinctly pointed to meetings of a political character, held on any day, which were likely to give rise to tumult and disorder.

EDUCATION INSPECTORS' REPORTS.

Sir G. GREY, in the absence of Lord Palmerston, moved the postponement of the orders to permit the bringing forward of a motion as to the Education Inspectors' reports. This having been agreed to, Sir G. GREY moved that the resolution of the 12th April might be read. The resolution having been read, the right hon. gentleman said that it asserted that the reports of the inspectors of schools had been mutilated, with the distinct object that references adverse to the views of the Education Committee should be withheld from the House. This was a grave charge, which must be met, and he therefore moved for a select committee to inquire into the practice of the Committee of Council on Education with respect to the reports of her Majesty's inspectors of schools. Sir J. PAKINGTON moved an addition to the resolution empowering the select committee to inquire into the composition of the Committee of Council. He advocated the appointment of a responsible Minister to sit in that House. At present there was great distrust of the department. Mr. BRUCE opposed the amendment. He contended that the charges against the Committee of Council were unfounded. Lord R. CECIL said he should vote for the amendment. While he gave full credence to the statement of Mr. Lowe, it was clear there was a power behind which did mutilate the reports. He thought, therefore, the matter required investigation. A scene ensued.

Mr. OSBORNE said—Mr. Lowe had been censured without inquiry, and sacrificed, as I think, without a cause. On the 18th of April, some four weeks ago, one or more officials under the Privy Council, who, I will take the liberty of saying, in spite of what has been stated both here and elsewhere, were equally discontented and disloyal servants of the department, took the opportunity of dropping accusations into the lion's mouth, then represented by the noble lord the member for Stamford—(a laugh)—who appeared to be neither an unwilling nor an unconscious recipient of those false and calumnious charges. (Cries of "Order!") Lord R. CECIL: I beg to move that the words of the honourable gentleman be taken down. (Hear, hear.) Mr. B. OSBORNE: I repeat—false and calumnious charges. He has retracted those charges to-night. ("Oh!" and "Order!") Lord R. CECIL: I have not retracted them. Mr. B. OSBORNE: Then you ought to have retracted them. If I have understood the noble lord, he has retracted them to-night, for he said he had every confidence in the honour of my right honourable friend. Lord R. CECIL: The statement of the honourable gentleman is so strong that I may be permitted to explain. My motion was couched against the Committee of Privy Council. As regards the Committee of Privy Council, I retract not one syllable, but as regards the right honourable gentleman, I believe the account he gives, and therefore the terms of the censure do not apply personally to him. Mr. B. OSBORNE: Oh, yes; it's all very well for the noble lord to say that now—(a laugh)—but, although his resolution was pointed against the Committee of Privy Council, the speech was expressly directed against the right honourable gentleman. ("Hear, hear," and cries of "Order!") Mr. LONGFIELD: I rise to order. The honourable gentleman is alluding to a speech made in a former debate, which is highly irregular. (Hear, hear.) Mr. B. OSBORNE: I am much obliged to the honourable gentleman for throwing his shield over the noble lord; but the House will remember that the attack was made personally against the Vice-President of the Committee of Privy Council. (Cheers.)

After some words from Mr. ADDERLEY and Sir G. GREY, the House divided, and the amendment was negatived by 142 votes to 93. The original motion was then agreed to.

CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES.

On the motion for going into committee of supply on the Civil Service Estimates, Mr. AUGUSTUS SMITH complained of the increasing amount of the estimates and the haphazard manner in which the accounts were presented to the House. He thought

if these estimates were thoroughly examined a million might be saved on them. After some discussion, in which Sir J. Paxton, Sir H. Willoughby, Colonel Sykes, and Mr. F. Peel took part, the House went into committee of supply, and was engaged for some time in discussing votes for the civil service.

The other orders were disposed of, and the House adjourned at one o'clock.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

On Friday, in reply to Lord Elcho, the Marquis of HARTINGTON stated that, as soon as the report on the Small Arms Committee was received, the manufactory at Enfield would be reduced to the lowest possible limit.

In reply to Mr. Long, Sir G. GREY said he thought the exactions and oppressions alleged to have been perpetrated in Jutland constituted an additional reason why an effort should be made to put an end to the war. His noble friend, the Foreign Secretary, had not, in consequence of those exactions and oppressions, ceased to attend the conference, and he would have acted unwisely if he had done so. Already he had succeeded in obtaining a suspension of arms, one of the conditions of which was that Austrian and Prussian troops were not to levy contributions from Jutland. (Cheers.)

In reply to Colonel French, Sir G. GREY said he believed there was an old statute under which the Archbishop of Canterbury had the power of conferring the degree of Doctor of Medicine, but it had never been exercised by the present archbishop.

MR. LOWE.

Mr. LOWE requested permission to make a personal statement. On the previous night he had been charged with making a statement which, though true in intent, was absolutely false in fact. He denied the latter part of the charge. His statement had reference to the alleged mutilations of the inspectors' reports which were laid before Parliament. But in proof of the charge against him a document had been produced which was simply a special or departmental report not intended to come before Parliament. Moreover, he denied that the words said to have been struck out of that report had been omitted. He condemned the new practice growing up among members of Parliament of suffering themselves to be the instruments for putting off these contraband wares. ("Hear, hear," and "Oh!")

THE SPEAKER—Order!

Lord R. CECIL said the matter complained of by the right hon. gentleman would be fully investigated before the committee which had been appointed.

THE GEORGIA.

Mr. T. BARING called the attention of the House to the fact that an armed steamer was now in the port of Liverpool, which having been originally manned and equipped from British ports, had preyed upon the commerce of a friendly nation, and had never been in any port of the belligerent under whose flag she sailed, and asked the Government if they thought that the admission of such vessels to British Harbours consistent with our international obligations, our professions or neutrality, and the preservation of British interests? The Hon. Member complained in strong terms of the inefficiency of the Foreign Enlistment Act, and urged that some steps should be taken on the part of her Majesty's Government to amend it.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said the Government had endeavoured to vindicate the law, and at the same time to preserve inviolate the character of strict neutrality which they had assumed throughout the civil war in America. There were three vessels which had been fitted out in this country, and which had since administered in an important manner to the belligerent wants of the Southern States, namely, the Florida, the Alabama, and the Georgia. It was impossible in the case of the Georgia to take steps to arrest the progress of the vessel, as the Government did not discover her real character until after she had sailed. In another case, however, namely, that of the Pampero, a verdict by consent had been given for the Crown, and the authority of the law had been successfully vindicated so far. Whatever difficulties the Government had had to contend with in point of law or evidence, this good effect had been produced, that a stop or check had been imposed upon the progress of that system of fitting out naval armaments for the Confederate States. It was not the intention of the Government to introduce any bill at the present moment for the amendment of the Foreign Enlistment Act, as they still entertained a hope that the law would prove sufficient for the purpose for which it was intended. He denied that the vessels which had been fitted out in this country could be regarded as British pirates. Such a designation was untrue in fact and dishonourable to the country. With regard to the visit of the Georgia to Liverpool, she had been admitted under the Order of Council of 1862, which enabled ships of belligerent powers to put in for the purpose of ordinary repairs, and as it was understood that she would be dismantled and sold, the Government had not considered it their duty to object to such a proceeding. The fact that the Georgia had never been in any port of the belligerent under whose flag she sailed did not alter her character, and no violation of international law had thereby been committed. He reminded the House that the Federal States were not themselves entirely free from blame, inasmuch as by their agents they had committed acts in this country, such as the enlistment of recruits in Ireland, which were of the most objectionable character.

Mr. W. E. FORSTER asked whether the Federal vessels would be allowed to pay off their crews in British ports, as had been done in the case of the Georgia?

Mr. COBDEN called the attention of the House to

the result which our policy had produced, and expressed a fear that it had created a gigantic sense of grievance in the minds of the American people, which it would be difficult to disabuse. Before the commencement of the war, the value of the American marine was between twenty and thirty million pounds, and now what with the high rate of insurance and captures, that vast property was virtually rendered valueless. If her Majesty's Government had helped the Confederates by bombarding the accessible ports of the Northern States, they would hardly have done more harm to the Federal States than by permitting these few cruisers to leave British ports. He asked what would be the position of our commerce, if we should become belligerents and the Americans were to retaliate? He believed that it would be paralysed and destroyed, and he had no doubt that the Americans would deem it an act of patriotism to fit out cruisers to prey upon it. He contended that the Florida, the Georgia, and the Alabama were not men-of-war, but mere corsairs, unfitted for making war upon armed vessels, but going about burning and destroying merchant vessels, and that under the Declaration of Paris, on the breaking out of the Crimean war, they ought to be excluded from our ports. Foreign Governments were sufficiently astute to learn a valuable lesson from the perilous example we had set. It was only the other day that we threatened, in conjunction with France, to go to war with Russia on account of Poland, and what did Russia do? She immediately sent her fleet to America. He warned the Government that the policy the Government were now pursuing would recoil with disastrous influence upon this country hereafter.

Lord R. CECIL believed we must make up our minds, if ever we were at war hereafter, to see the ocean swarming with hostile ships. We must, therefore, be prepared to protect our mercantile marine in a better manner than we had in bygone years. With regard to the subject now under the consideration of the House, he asked if there was one side only to the picture? Had no injury been done to the Confederates? and had they no sense of the wrongs which had been heaped upon them? In 1862 rifles and muskets to the value of 546,000*l.* were exported to the Federal States from this country, and nearly 12,000,000 of percussion caps, while the mercantile house which had been instrumental in conveying that assistance to the Federals was the house of Baring and Co.

Mr. SHAW LEFEBVRE expressed deep regret that the Government were not prepared to exclude these Confederate privateers from British ports.

After some further observations from Lord R. MONTAGU and Mr. Alderman ROSE, the motion for adjournment was agreed to.

THE MALT TAX.

On the order of the day for going into committee of supply, Mr. MORRITT rose to move a resolution in reference to the malt-tax, and, on his alluding to the meagre attendance upon the benches, the House was counted out by the Speaker at nine o'clock.

The House stands adjourned till to-morrow for the Whitsun recess.

Foreign Intelligence.

M. Rouher, the French Minister of State, delivered on Thursday an important speech in the Corps Législatif in reply to M. Jules Favre. He vindicated the policy of the Government in regard to Denmark and to Poland. He denied that the Treaty of London involved any obligation on the part of France to take up arms for the purpose of maintaining the integrity of Denmark. M. Rouher declared that the French Government did not mean to go to war for Denmark, as the sacrifices such a policy must involve would be entirely out of proportion to France's interest in the struggle. He expressed a confident hope in the result of the Conference. With regard to Poland, M. Rouher argued that the interests involved were entirely European, and that it was not the duty of France to intervene alone. It must be left to God and time to decide between Poland and her oppressors. The whole tenor of the speech was eminently pacific.

The news of the conclusion of an armistice excited some gloom at Copenhagen, and some of the Ministers resigned. On the very day of its adoption, Field-Marshal Wrangel imposed an enormous contribution on the landed proprietors of Jutland. The Danish papers complain that, notwithstanding the armistice, the Prussians continued pillaging in Jutland on the 12th and 13th inst. Two thousand inhabitants of the environs of Kolding and Fredericia have been compelled to assist in demolishing the fortifications of Fredericia. In the late naval engagement, the Danish ships were little injured. Their loss was fourteen killed, and fifty-four wounded. The squadron reached Copenhagen on Sunday, and was greatly cheered by the assembled spectators. The King went on board the ships.

It is believed in Paris that at Thursday's sitting of the London Conference, Prussia and Austria declared themselves released from the engagements of the Treaty of 1852, in consequence of the events of the war. England and Russia are reported to have maintained the principle of the treaty.

The Crown Princess of Prussia, who was going to the seat of war, stopped short at Hamburg, where her husband joined her.

There has been a long debate in the Italian Chamber on a proposition that the Romans be called upon to elect and despatch representatives to the

Italian Parliament. Several speakers urged that it was impossible to develop the institutions and organise the finances of the country while the Pope, who protects brigandage, occupied Rome. The Abbé Passaglia, who spoke in the same sense, said in his speech—"The Papacy will never yield, but will always be the active enemy of Italy so long as it is protected by a foreign force." Signor Minghetti, the Prime Minister, opposed the proposal on the ground that it contained nothing practical, and he contended that the difficulties which surrounded the Roman question were such as to require a gradual solution. The Chamber, in compliance with the suggestion of Signor Minghetti, voted by a large majority that the order of the day proceed—in other words, put the proposal aside altogether, and let Ministers have their way.

Austria continues to concentrate troops in Transylvania. A detachment 30,000 strong has been assembled on the Moldavian frontier.

By the Australian there are dates from New York to May 4th. So far as was known the position of both armies on the Rapidan remained unchanged. Complete secrecy was maintained by General Grant on his intended movements. The village of Madison Court-house was wholly destroyed by a Federal cavalry reconnoitring force on the 29th of April, the object being to dislodge a small force of Confederate sharpshooters. The Federals evacuated Washington, North Carolina, on the 28th of April, and retired to Newbern. The *Richmond Examiner* states that a battle was impending in Tennessee. It was expected that the Federals would attack Dalton. General Banks had retreated from Grand Ecore to Alexandria, 100 miles distant. Admiral Porter's fleet had also returned to Alexandria. Confederate despatches report Banks' loss on the 8th ult. at 8,000 men. The Federal accounts admits 5,000. The Confederate Generals Prince Polignac and Monthon were severely wounded on that day. The committee sent by Congress to Cairo to investigate the circumstances attending the capture of Fort Pillow confirm the account of the Confederate massacre of the negro prisoners. The court-martial on Admiral Wilkes has found him guilty. He has been sentenced to be publicly reprimanded, and suspended from service for three years. A bill appropriating 25 million dollars for pay of the volunteers for 100 days had passed the Senate. A bill had passed unanimously in the House of Representatives increasing the pay of private soldiers from 1st May to 16 dollars per month, and the pay of non-commissioned officers in proportion. The House had appointed a committee to investigate the charges of fraud and immorality in the Treasury department. Congress had passed a resolution equalising the pay of coloured and white troops. Gold was 94 premium.

A telegram from Calcutta says that the chief of the State of Bhootan had insulted our envoy, Mr. Ashley Eden, in public durbar. He was subsequently imprisoned, and compelled to sign a treaty ceding British Assam to Bhootan.

The King of Dahomey has sustained a signal repulse in his attempt to take Abbeokuta, a city of some 200,000 souls. He attacked the place with some 10,000 men and women, and three brass 6-pounders. The Egbas immediately opened a tremendous fire on the serried lines, and arrested them at once. In the advancing column were Amazons, who fought bravely and desperately. Many of these furies climbed the wall, which is more than 15 feet high; but, so soon as they reached the top, the Egbas dragged them over and slew them. One Amazon, who had one of her hands cut off in her attempt to clamber over the wall, discharged her musket with the other hand and shot an Egba. She received a severe blow from a sabre, and fell backwards into the trench. The Dahomians were utterly defeated. In fact, they have never met with such a signal defeat—not even in 1851. They lost upwards of 1,000 in killed; and the number of prisoners is said to exceed 2,000. In front of the division which took first to flight was the doughty King himself. The Egbas pursued both divisions and slaughtered the fugitives without mercy and without a pause. Seeing the discomfiture of the King, the inhabitants of the neighbouring crooms turned out and joined heartily in the general massacre. Out of his three field-pieces, the King lost two.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

Her Majesty on Wednesday went to Baron Marchetti's studio to see the colossal statue of the Prince Consort, in progress for Glasgow, as well as other works of the Baron. Sir Edwin Landseer had at the same time the honour of submitting his model of the colossal lion on which he is engaged for Trafalgar-square.

On Wednesday the Queen held a Court at Buckingham Palace. Viscount Palmerston was unable to attend. The Duke and Duchess of Somerset were present. Her Majesty wore a necklace of four rows of large pearls, a miniature of the Prince Consort set in diamonds as a brooch. The persons invited consisted of the members of the Government and the chief members of the Opposition. After the Court the Queen returned to Windsor. In the evening a state concert was given at Buckingham Palace, to which 700 persons were invited. The Prince and Princess of Wales were present.

The Queen and Court left Windsor Castle for Balmoral on Friday evening, and arrived there on the afternoon of the day following. Her Majesty will, it is expected, return to Windsor about the 10th of June, where the Court will remain until the end

of the parliamentary session. It is understood that the Queen will not go to Germany this year.

The *Owl* understands that Prince Alfred is about to proceed on a tour in Turkey and the Crimea.

The Princess of Wales held a drawing-room on Saturday morning on behalf of her Majesty.

The accounts of the venerable Earl of Radnor are such as to give uneasiness to his friends. He is at Coleshill, his seat in Berkshire.

Lord Brougham has arrived in Paris from Cannes on his way to England, and appears in excellent health. His lordship has been devoting a portion of his leisure in the south in preparing an introduction to a collection of the speeches of the great Lord Plunket.

The Duke of Newcastle has greatly improved in health, and during Friday and Saturday took carriage airings. The noble Duke has of late somewhat regained his strength. His health is, however, still so precarious as to occasion much anxiety to his family.

Earl De Grey has punished most severely some clerks in a branch of the War Office. They are said to have indulged largely in gambling, in the office. Two of the principals, of long service and at high salaries, have been dismissed summarily; and some of the juniors who were aware of what was going on have been placed at the bottom of the list for promotion.

A Cabinet Council was held at Cambridge House on Friday.

The Channel fleet has returned from the Downs to Plymouth.

Viscount Palmerston and lady left town on Sunday for Brockett Hall, Herts, accompanied by the Earl and Countess of Shaftesbury and a select family circle, to pass the holidays. The noble Premier and her ladyship are expected to return to Cambridge House on Thursday.

Obituary.

DEATH OF SIR JAMES ANDERSON.—In announcing the death of this gentleman, formerly M.P. for the Stirling burghs, the *Glasgow Saturday Post* says:—

He was born in 1800, and was thus at his death sixty-four years of age. He was a native of Stirling, and came to Glasgow when a young man, at which time he became foreman to Messrs. William Snell and Co., a famous gingham manufacturing firm in the Candleriggs at that time. By and by he married the only daughter of Bailie Robert Hood, and carried on upon his own account the manufacture of gingham. By his industry, excellent business habits, and upright bearing, things went well with him, and eventually the firm which bore his name took a prominent place amongst the manufacturers of Glasgow, a position, we believe, it has continued to maintain. In 1841 he was elected a member of the Town Council. Such were the tact and zeal which he brought to bear in the discharge of his municipal duties that in 1842 he was made a magistrate. This office he filled with so much acceptancy that the highest honour that his fellow-citizens could confer was in 1848 bestowed upon him—that of the Lord Provostship. His contemporaries state that he was an excellent chairman both in the Town Council and at the public meetings he was called upon to preside, always conducting the business on hand with despatch and order. It was during his municipal reign in 1849 that the Queen visited Glasgow, and that, on going on board the Royal yacht, he was invested with the dignity of knighthood—an honour which, while it gratified the recipient of it, also gave much satisfaction to the people of Glasgow. When the term of his Provostship expired, Sir James remained in the Town Council, continuing in it till 1854, when he retired. His friends, thinking that his experience of public business might be useful in the great council of the nation, advised him to endeavour to obtain a seat in the House of Commons. He accordingly offered himself, in 1852, as a candidate in the Liberal interest for the Stirling burghs, and was, owing probably to the fact of his being a native of Stirling, and also to his reputation of having been an excellent chief magistrate of Glasgow, successful in his appeal to the constituency of these burghs. He continued to represent them till 1859, when, finding that the labour of a member of Parliament was of too arduous a character for his failing health, he retired, and ceased from that time to take an active part in public affairs. He was a United Presbyterian, and long an elder of Greyfriars Church during the ministry of Dr. Dick, Dr. King, and latterly of Mr. Calderwood. The duties of the eldership he also faithfully fulfilled, and was several times chosen as a representative to the Synod. He was a liberal supporter, not only of the Church of which he was one of the most prominent members, but also of many of the public institutions of the city—indeed, there were few public appeals made to Glasgow to contribute to a cause the object of which was to relieve suffering or promote human welfare, when his name was not found amongst the most liberal subscribers. As to his private virtues, into these we will not enter: we will only say that they were just those which should be expected in such a useful and liberal public man. His loss will be long and much felt in Glasgow.

THE LATE MR. JOHN BULLAR.—The Southampton papers record the death of Mr. John Bullar, a native of that town, and who lived in it nearly 90 years. For forty years of his life he was engaged in tuition, and educated a great number of the principal persons in the town. His first pupil is now living, at nearly 70 years of age. On Mr. Bullar's retirement his pupils presented him with a purse of 500 sovereigns. The deceased was a Liberal and a Nonconformist, and one of the deacons of the Rev. T. Adkins's church. Exactly fifty years ago he established the Southampton Auxiliary Branch of the British and Foreign Bible Society. He was an advocate of the abolition of the slave-trade and of the formation of mechanics' institutes. He was the author of works on the history and antiquities of Southampton, and on other subjects, and he took an active part in everything relating to the welfare of his native town.

Miscellaneous News.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.—The Liberals of Leeds have resolved to start a second candidate with Mr. Baines at the next election, and have fixed upon Mr. Thomas Hughes. Mr. Langton will retire from Bristol, and the Liberals have unanimously resolved to invite Sir Morton Peto, Bart., in his place.

CHURCH-RATES IN BETHNAL GREEN.—An important and interesting Church-rate meeting was held last evening in the Iron Church, Approach-road, Bethnal-green. Mr. G. Gowland presided. Apart from the special object of the meeting, which was to protest against the manner in which Church-rates are levied in Bethnal-green, attention was forcibly called to the Church-building Act of the Attorney-General. Resolutions were passed against it, and a petition to Parliament praying that it may not pass into law was adopted. Amongst the speakers were the Revs. C. Stovel, — Hooper, H. D. Northrop, and Mr. J. C. Williams, of the Liberation Society.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY AND THE ABORIGINES SOCIETY.—On Saturday a deputation from the Aborigines Protection Society had an interview with Mr. Cardwell at the Colonial Office. The deputation urged upon the right hon. gentleman the importance of treating the native inhabitants of the British colonies with justice. They protested against the New Zealand Confiscation Acts as being contrary to sound policy, as well as a violation of the rights of the Maories. They especially impressed upon the right hon. gentleman the importance of establishing a colony in the Red River settlement. Mr. Cardwell, in general terms, expressed his sympathy with the primary object which the society had in view, that of securing the just treatment of the aborigines.

THE DIVISION ON MR. BAINES'S BILL.—In the division on Wednesday, the Opposition were supported in the above division by several "Liberal" votes. Among them are those of Major Anson, W. B. Beaumont, A. Beaumont (Newcastle-upon-Tyne), A. Black, General Buckley, Lord Eloho, A. Finlay, W. H. Gregory, M. Hassard, Hon. G. Heathcote, R. Lowe, J. Mackie, W. Mackinnon (Lymington), Colonel Packe (South Lincolnshire), Hon. W. Portman, A. Smith (Truro), and J. Walter. The list of Liberal absentees, which is a long one, includes the names of the following members of the Government:—Viscount Palmerston, Mr. Huggessen, Sir R. Peel, Lord C. Paget, Sir R. Palmer, and the Lord Advocate. Mr. Gladstone paired off in favour of the bill.

MR. H. C. SELOUS'S PAINTING OF THE CRUCIFIXION.—This magnificent painting has returned to London from a provincial tour, and is now on view at the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly. The month of May is rightly chosen for its exhibition in the metropolis, and we doubt not many of the visitors of the season will find their way from Exeter Hall to the Egyptian Hall. Mr. Selous presents this work to the public as the result of nine years' artistic labour, literary research, and Oriental travel; a marvel of painstaking effort. The first impression of the painting is very striking. Before the eye catches the hundred figures in the foreground, which are executed with great fidelity and elaboration, the attention is arrested by the mass of palaces, towers, and public buildings which are spread out over the whole extent of the canvas. The sky is darkened by thunder clouds, and the temple is riven with the lightning's flash. Our Lord and the two thieves who were crucified on either side of Him are elevated on the place called Golgotha, and the sun darts its rays through the thick cloud and rests upon the central figure of that group. This may be deemed fanciful, but the effect is a relief to the sombre appearance of the scene, and it brings into view the form of our Saviour, which would otherwise be almost obscured in the darkness. The theme is one which no artist could rightly conceive, but Mr. Selous has certainly produced a wonderful work of art, and one which will be eagerly looked upon by all who are familiar with the Gospel narratives of the Crucifixion.

THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.—On Wednesday, the Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, and Fellows of the University, held a meeting at Burlington House, for the purpose of admitting to degrees those who had passed the various examinations, and awarding certificates and medals to those who had passed with honours. Earl Granville presided, and delivered an address on the occasion. He congratulated the company at seeing so numerous an assemblage, and especially in finding himself surrounded by Bishops of the Church of England, and very many eminent persons, both lay and clerical, connected with the Roman Catholic Church, which was a tribute to the liberal and comprehensive principles on which the University was founded. The report of the Registrar was very satisfactory. He found that while in 1857 the number of candidates for examination was 439, it had increased in 1863 to 1,020. (Cheers.) He found also that while in 1857 the number of matriculations was 256, it had arisen in 1863 to 485; that the degree of Bachelor of Arts, which in 1857 was conferred on only 75, had been increased in 1863 to 153, and the number promoted in scientific examination, which in 1857 was 43, had increased in 1863 to 104. (Cheers.) The same increase had taken place in every department. In the University the important honour of Senior Wrangler had been conferred on a member of the University of London. (Cheers.) The position of second and third class Wranglers was obtained by members of the same University. The noble earl proceeded to dwell on a variety of other topics connected with the position and prospects of the University.

Literature.

TWO VOLUMES OF VERSE.*

Mr. Dunbar, the author of one of the volumes of verse before us, has, we learn, both from his title-page and from some laudatory notices quoted in an advertisement attached to the book, reached out his hand for the bay before his present attempt. We have never been favoured with a sight of "The Nuptials of Barcelona—a Tale of Love and War," but one contemporary describes it as "a powerfully written poem," containing "passages of exquisite power and beauty," and another declares that "it abounds in rich and glowing descriptions, not unmingled with the most touching pathos." Moreover the present issue is a "Second Edition," so that we might seem to be almost shut up to an acquiescence in the verdict that what appeared to our unaided judgment as so much jingle and verbiage is really akin to the notes of Apollo's pipe, instead of Marsyas's.

To be serious, the writer seems to be one of those who think that because they have a measure of sympathy with beautiful and touching scenes, therefore they can write poetry. It is evident that his mind has been open to the thrilling impressions of a gorgeous and luxuriant external nature: and, that that nature is capable of furnishing rich materials to the imagination, Mr. Kingsley has shown us in the splendid prose poetry of "Westward Ho." But the very wealth of those materials makes them all the more perilous and treacherous to one who would use them for the purposes of art. The colours indeed are bright enough. The phenomena of a vegetation immeasurably more magnificent, and an atmosphere incomparably more potent in its working, than that of Europe, are in themselves sufficiently striking. The very word "Hurricane" suggests a tragedy:—without the help of Mr. Dunbar's stanzas. But the poet of such scenes must

"Ride on the whirlwind and direct the storm; he must be no mere sentimental astonished gazer; but must be capable of moving freely amid such magnificence, and vindicating the greatness of man as appropriating and dominating over the forces of brute irrational existence. It is true Mr. Dunbar modestly tells us, in the preface to his first edition, that he is "sensible how imperfectly his verse reflects his subject," and that it will satisfy him if only he has "indicated where such abundant poetical treasures are to be found; leaving it to future and more eminent poets to reap the rich rewards." But, we ask, does the writer think his failures are likely, or if likely, necessary, to lure genius to its mark? Are they not more likely, if anything, to deter—as if it had been the warning of a skeleton or a gallows at the base of the Delphic heights? A far likelier way to feed the imagination of a poet would be by such faithful prose descriptions as those of the poet-naturalist and philosopher Humboldt in his "Kosmos"—or as, indeed, any sincere observer may furnish;—or such delineations by colour and pencil as have, to many, made lands only so known, as familiar as their own.

Mr. Dunbar's lyrics and love-songs are scarcely more to our taste than his "Beauties of Tropical Scenery." One presents a somewhat doubtfully-intentioned youth serenading his not-unwilling fair, till the latter ventures forth and bends her steps with her beloved to a certain cocoa-grove. The reader is relieved to find that a rather unreasonably ardent request for an immediate elopement, is refused by the adventurous damsel, who discreetly prefers to wait till papa returns to give his consent. It is impossible not to admire the judicious response on the part of the impatient suitor,

"If thou wouldst Hymen's hour delay,
'Tis mine to listen and obey."

Is it possible, we cannot help asking, that man or woman should read with pleasure this silly, maudlin stuff? Yet, as we have seen above, the writer, with all his modesty, claims for himself by implication, and has received from others, the title of "poet." We must just quote another line or two by way of specimen, before we pass on to work of very different order. Let us, in passing, commend the above exquisite couplet to the valentine manufacturers. Here is the greeting bestowed upon the noblest of the West Indian islands:—

"Irriguous Cuba, on thy lucid streams,
The stranger gazes with surprised delight,"

Irriguous Cuba,—Save the mark! By the way, it presently appears that the delight experienced by the enthusiastic gazer springs,

* 1. *Beauties of Tropical Scenery, Lyrical Sketches and Love-Songs, with Notes Historical and Illustrative.* By R. N. DUNBAR. London: Hardwicke.

2. *Judas Maccabæus. An Heroic Poem in Twelve Books.* By EDMUND PEEL. Macmillan.

not from sympathy with the scene in its own beauty, but from admiration of the bathing "Naiads," who happen to be free from certain fancies and scruples which would disturb the inhabitants of less unsophisticated lands under similar circumstances. Here is more on bathing:—

"Divine Ablution, antidote to heat,
Pure, pristine pleasure, unalloyed with bane,
Armed in thy panoply"—

—but why, our readers will exclaim, any more of this? Let us stop here.

Mr. Edmund Peel's "Judas Maccabæus" is a true work of art. There is evinced in it a manly determination to forego showy spurious attractions, to throw himself into true relations with the times of which he writes, and to rest the interest and success of his work upon its development as a whole, rather than upon isolated beautiful passages. His style is sometimes plain even to baldness; and his versification is in some respects defective; but faults such as these we are ready to welcome as "leaning to virtue's side," compared with the easy fluency and volubility which characterise so much of the verse written in the present day. "Judas Maccabæus" is not a great poem; and therefore will probably be soon swallowed up in the engulfing waves of our multitudinous modern literature; but it is certainly better worth reading than nine-tenths of the verse which forms so considerable a portion of that literature. Moreover, it is a poem calculated to brace the mind and not to enervate it. It will hardly be taken up—or if taken up, more than glanced at—by the indolent and enervated. To read it demands a certain amount of effort—as we can testify from experience—but if it did not do this, it could scarcely be poetry at all. The best poetry is always hard reading.

The period embraced by the author is that from the first appearance of Judas as champion of his oppressed country, to his death on the field of battle—in all about seven years. It is a good feature in this choice of a subject, that it is calculated to draw attention to a period of history far less generally known than its inherent interest deserves. Hardly is there a patriotic struggle in the history of the world more heroic than that between the Jews under the valiant sons of Mattathias and the overwhelming myriads of Antiochus. Our general apathy with regard to this story of freedom—contrasted with the enthusiasm for the heroes of Marathon, Thermopylae, Sempach, Mortgarten,—is no doubt, in great measure the consequence of our undue depreciation of the books called *Apocrypha*. We should do well to remember that the heroes and heroines of the religious-patriotic struggle with which Mr. Peel's poem deals have been deemed worthy of ranking amongst the noble "clouds of witnesses" whose deeds of faith are rehearsed by the author of the Epistle to the Hebrews. "Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance: that they might obtain a better resurrection: and others had trial of cruel mockings, and scourgings, . . . of whom the world was not worthy." Those whom inspiration has thus honoured we may well deem worthy of our reverence.

The chief defects of this poem are—the want of unity in its action—its occasional flatness both of thought and diction—its frequent and unnecessary obscurity—and the inharmonious introduction in it, here and there, of illustrations designed to flatter English feeling, rather than to illustrate the action or to honour its hero. With regard to the want of unity—the career of Judas culminates in the purification of the Temple, and his decisive victories at Capharsalama and Beth-horon. The natural theme of the poem is the liberation of Judæa. This being virtually achieved, the action recedes rather than consummates itself in the conflict—glorious as it was, and against frightful odds—in which the hero fell. Moreover, it is difficult to give anything like a coherent artistic view of a protracted struggle, consisting to a large extent of petty guerilla warfare. The writer has endeavoured to combine poetic unity with that kind of completeness which belongs to a history or chronicle, and as might be expected, he has but imperfectly succeeded.

Our space will not admit of our substantiating in detail all our remaining counts. And it will be more pleasant to us to quote a passage or two evincing both true, manly feeling, and graceful command of words and verse. Take the following glimpse of the hosts of Syria as they presented themselves to the eye of the Jewish leader:—

"On such, so various, yet with fulgent arms
Alike resplendent, Maccabæus gazed:
The Jews observe their leader: he on them
Soon turns with earnest reassuring eyes
Of hope and trust: no leisure finds he now
To go the daily round of compliment:
A glance, a gesture better hits the time.
'Peace be among you!' seems a hollow sound
To warriors armed for slaughter. 'Lo, they come!'
Said Maccabæus, pointing to the north;
'Behold them warping hither, like a blight

Malign, or cloud of locusts: even now
The sun ye long'd for, to disperse that cloud,
Is risen, and vengeance, like a fiery blast,
Hastens to scatter and consume the plague.
Take food, be ready, laugh to scorn the spears
Levell'd against Jehovah, Lord of Hosts."—P. 125.

Or this threnody on one slain:

"Thy solitary mother, . . .
Looks out from Zorah's memorable rock
For one who comes not, one who will not come;
Listens, as though one footfall might be known
Among a thousand! Listens, half in hope
And half in fear, prophetic.

Sink to sleep,
Young soldier, rapt beyond the touch of tears!
Tears from a deep and holy fountain rise
And fall, how fondly when the good die young!
Too fondly!—Thou, devoted one, art found
True to thy God, thy country, and thy home,
True to the last! lie down and take thy rest
Beneath a heaven of calm.

If weep thou must,
Sad mother, weep for one dissolved in ease
And pleasure, one who cares not how men toil
And groan; who neither filial heart regards
Still homeward yearning, nor fraternal face
Upturned, nor clenched in mortal agony
Twin hands, nor clay-cold face supine."

By the way, Mr. Peel, here and elsewhere, occasionally makes rather too free with what is his neighbour's. "The cloud of locusts warping" on the wind, as everybody knows, or should know, is Milton's, and "the good die young" is Wordsworth's. We do not suppose he intended to pass off these well-known expressions as original; but he must allow that when they are removed, the context of the above passages will be found to be very seriously impoverished.

The volume is dedicated to the "Volunteers of England." We suppose this explains the introduction of a foot-note on p. 185, telling us what "the Duke said" on a certain occasion, and of a somewhat detailed scene from the Peninsular war in another place—(p. 245). These are blemishes of taste.

"LAURENCE BLOOMFIELD IN IRELAND.*"

Mr. Allingham has produced a poem, which, though "modern," inasmuch as its subject is the Ireland of to-day, is conceived and executed in an essentially unmodern spirit. Though letting appear a full knowledge of the questions which have agitated other minds, he seems to have escaped the feverish dissatisfaction and hysterical passion which have given a characteristic tone to the writings of so many of his contemporaries. His pulse has kept its even beat; and he has been able to produce a poem quite different in subject and tone from any we have lately read. He has resolutely turned a long, clear, steady gaze upon the outward facts of life. In seeking to draw a picture of Irish life such as Chaucer drew of English society in Henry the Fourth's day, he describes the typical persons of an Irish country district—giving us—instead of the Monk, the Nun, the Miller, the Pardoner, of the "Canterbury Tales"—the Landlord, the Agent, the Bailiff, the Ribbonman, the "Coadjutor," &c., with a naturalness and absence of exaggeration characteristic of a now unpopular and forgotten school of art. In a word, if we may say that word without giving offence, Mr. Allingham's poem is essentially *un-spasmodic*. His language is simple, natural, and direct; there is no forced or too frequent recourse had to imagery, to conceal a too unsubstantial fabric of narrative, or eke out a poverty of thought; and most conspicuously of all, as we have just said, no exaggeration of fact or feeling. Every reader will feel how truly this description by negatives applies to Goldsmith; and whether the resemblance be conspicuously sought or not, there is much in "Laurence Bloomfield" to remind one of the "Deserted Village." Though the execution has more modern freedom and ease, there is a quietness of sentiment and a classical purity and finish of style which breathe the very spirit of him alone among Irish poets—if him even—whom Mr. Allingham can be ranked below.

"The scene (says the author) is a district in Ireland, of extent such as might be seen in panorama from a moderate eminence; inland, but not far from the coast, with mountain-range, hills, moors, and bogs, wide rich plain, a river, and a lake. The persons are Sir Ulick Harvey, an old landed proprietor; his nephew, Mr. Bloomfield, a young one; Mr. Pigot, agent to both; tenants upon each estate; with so much as seemed proportionate respecting their wives, families, and friends, neighbouring landlords, clergy, Ribbonmen, politicians, &c. In an Irish whirlwind of conflicting interests and opinions, Bloomfield finds his own way to a central spot of peace in the heart of the storm."

Mr. Allingham fairly grapples the condition of Ireland question, and writes with a good sense, moderation, and absence of prejudice too often wanting in his countrymen when discussing this topic. At the same time he is perfectly out-

* *Laurence Bloomfield in Ireland. A Poem.* By WILLIAM ALLINGHAM. Macmillan.

spoken. The following Ribbon sketch can hardly be objected to on the ground of flattery:—

RIBBON-LODGE.

"Sharp-toned his voice, decision on his brow,
With sudden gesture stepping forward now,
Their captain ('order! silence!') takes the chair,
And keeps his hat, while other heads are bare.
'All doors well tiled and truly?—I declare
The Lodge is open. Murby, call the roll.
I'll punish all defaulters, by my soul!
And now, reports: young Pat Devanny saw
Our friend the Scotchman, Alexander Shaw,
Buying a gun in Lismahoy last week.
James Houlihan, the Bear, intends to seek
For part of Tullagh; James must get a hint;
We'll write him on a coffin in large print.
Four boys will execute the sentence passed
On Jemmy Burke, convicted at our last
Of sending in proposals for a farm
At Meenaboo; they'll do him little harm;
Dry-beating only this time. Next fair-day
Help from beyond is coming down our way.
Burke, with his two brown colts will stand the fair,
You, Quigly, you, O'Toole, must both be there,
To keep all day a cat's eye on your man,
And put some whisky in him, if you can.
You, Doran, that he won't suspect, must draw,
With two strange lads (they're men you never saw),
Alongside Jemmy, take him by the hand,
Call out his name, you know, and make him stand,
Until the boys are sure of Mr. Burke;
Then go your ways for once; they'll do the work.'"

The poem abounds in similarly lively and picturesque passages, marked by vivid touches which bespeak personal familiarity with the scenes he is describing. To write on such subjects, and in such a style, must have been an "experiment" for Mr. Allingham, in a different sense from that in which he uses the word in his preface. The transition from his previous manner is very striking. His best claim to fame heretofore was founded not on his ballads, though they enjoyed that amount of popularity which approved him a master of ballad craft; but upon the series of poems called "Day and Night Songs," poems which resemble nothing we are acquainted with in literature, unless they now and then remind one of Herrick, by their brevity, their tenderness, and airy grace. But they come from depths of feeling which Herrick never sounded; and have a profounder melody than he ever attained to. In marked contrast with the almost didactic character of the poem before us, in which practical meanings find the plainest expression, it might almost be said that they have no meaning in the proper sense of the word, that is no meaning which could be expressed as a proposition. They convey a feeling, though, with the utmost distinctness, and make upon the mind the same impressions as the aspects of nature which suggested them. In point of fact they hold much the same place in poetry, as Mendelssohn's "Songs without Words" in music. They have a weird, mystical charm which is perfectly indescribable; and live in the memory, and come back to the mind, like no other poems we know of. Difficult indeed they are; to be enjoyed the reader's imagination must meet that of the poet half-way. We can readily imagine that many of those who know Mr. Allingham by his shorter poems—who have mused sadly as they listened to his river whispering to the rushes grey, or watched his "yellow star, bending above the rippling tide," with its infinite burden of tender suggestions—will turn from this book with something of disappointment.

There are those to whom the tracery is the most interesting and important feature in a Gothic church;—and there are readers to whom the work of the imagination is all in all in poetry; to whom these floating gossamer webs of fancy, just tied down to earth by a single thin thread of fact, will be more valuable and pleasing than anything a poet has to say when he takes up firm standing ground in the actual facts of life, and uses his genius to give an imaginative form and expression to solid thoughts on serious matters. Such will be partially consoled by the announcement that "another volume of poems" is in preparation; partially too by the lines that here and there set before you a whole scene in a single phrase, and show how genuine a poet and how great a master of language Mr. Allingham is, almost as strikingly as the minor poems we have alluded to.

BRIEF NOTICES.

Index Geographicus: Compiled especially with reference to Keith Johnston's Royal Atlas; but applicable to all modern atlases and maps. (Edinburgh and London: W. Blackwood and Sons.) This large and handsome volume contains an alphabetical list of the principal places on the globe, with the countries and subdivisions of the countries in which they are situated, and their latitudes and longitudes. As an index to Johnston's Royal Atlas, it is perfect, referring not only to the maps by numbers, but also by the lettered spaces into which the maps are divided. But the primary object thus kept in view has not demanded the sacrifice of a general utility; on the contrary, the latitudes and longitudes being given very accurately, the work may be used with all atlases, to which it is further adapted by the insertion of all the popular variations in the

spelling of geographical names, all historical and obsolete forms, and, in general all aliases. When a name is that of a county, a subdivision of a county, a river, lake, or mountain, it is properly described by appropriate abbreviations; but towns and villages have no other designation appended, but are simply referred to the country and province of the country to which they belong. The value of such a work, both as a gazetteer in brief, and as a guide to the use of maps, is incalculable; and, having tested this production in a large number of cases taken as fancy suggested, and including some very obscure names, we are prepared to believe that it is altogether reliable and of sufficient extent. No doubt minute errors may be found in the course of 700 pages of very small type, consisting of names and figures; but the test instances we refer to have not failed us in any respect. The labour of the compilers must have been enormous, even after allowing for all the materials contained in similar indexes. The work is really a necessity to every library; and deserves to be a success to the publishers.—*The Story of Carey, Marshman, and Ward, the Serampore Missionaries*. By J. C. MARSHMAN. (London: A. Strahan and Co.) Never will the interest of this story die. There are some chapters in the history of missions which are as supplements to the Acts of the Apostles, and this story is one such. Mr. Marshman's larger work must always find its readers among persons of some leisure and culture. This popular edition is therefore exceedingly welcome; and is abridged only so far as the omission of historical notices illustrative of the times of the Serampore missionaries, and of those vindications of their character which, having been once placed on record, might now well give place to "a simple memorial of their exemplary life and arduous labours in the cause of Christian truth." Having previously reviewed with much satisfaction the larger work, we now need but commend this to universal circulation in Christian congregations and families.—*Lectures on Butler's Analogy of Religion*. By the Right Hon. JOSEPH NAPIER, LL.D. (Dublin: Hodges and Smith.) These lectures were prepared for and delivered to the Young Men's Christian Association of "the United Church of England and Ireland," and are published with the hope of assisting the profitable study of Butler's great work. There are some things we do not assent to; and everywhere the diffuseness, however needful to the interpretation of such an argument to a listener, is too great for a thoughtful reader. Yet there are valuable materials in the book; and it is both marked by a just appreciation of the argument, and by admirable power of giving the exact import of the text. It is its best feature, and its highest value, that it makes Butler his own expositor. There are not a few, however, even among ordinary readers, who will find Butler more intelligible and more commanding in his own pages, studied with the aid of a good summary, than in these popular lectures of a very able and earnest man.—*Heroines of the Household*. By the author of "Popular Preachers of the Ancient Church." With illustrations. (London: J. Hogg and Sons.) Another of the publishers' popular books for general reading, and containing a kind of "Gallery of Good Women," beginning with the mother of Augustine and Olympia Morata, selecting further names and characters comparatively little known, and ending with the Kaiserwerth Deaconesses and Miss Marsh. The book has no great literary pretensions, but supplies fairly studied and generally well-written sketches; and may be specially commended as a gift-book for girls.

—*The Steady Aim:—Examples and Encouragements from Modern Biography*. By W. H. DAVENPORT ADAMS. (Hogg and Sons.) An author of several good and well-received books here collects under headings, and introduces each series by a prologue on the theme they illustrate, such examples of honourable aims, noble efforts, untiring industry, and lofty endurance as are richly supplied by English biography. To encourage one pursuit, and to show that steady purpose and patient effort are the roots of success in it, is the writer's aim, and we doubt not he will stimulate the best energies of many youthful minds that he instructs and delights by his varied narratives.—*Old Bones; or Notes for Young Naturalists; or Invertebrate Animals, their Fossil Predecessors and Allies*. By Rev. W. S. SYMONDS, F.G.S. Second Edition. (London: R. Hardwicke.) This is a thoroughly revised edition of a little work which is altogether the best on its subject, and which has great power to engage the attention of readers new to such studies, and to give them clear and accurate conceptions. It never fails to be a favourite with young naturalists; and fortunately further combines a truly scientific character with popular attractiveness. It is profusely illustrated.—*What saith the Scripture concerning the Kingdom and Advent of Christ?* By W. P. LYON, B.A. Cheap Edition. (London: E. Stock.) We are very glad again to draw attention to the careful, and, as we think, convincing work of Mr. Lyon on modern Millenarianism, its interpretations of Scripture, and its relations to theology, to missions, and to everyday life. We gave our strongest commendation to the first edition; we repeat it now, with a deepened sense of the importance of the subject, and with a strong desire that Mr. Lyon's work may be widely circulated, and may arrest, as it is almost perfectly fitted to do, the influence of opinions the most unscriptural, and in their last tendency, the most injurious, that have present currency

in the evangelical churches.—*The Principles of Agriculture*. By W. BLAND, M.R.A.S. Second Edition. (London: Longman and Co.) For many years out of print, there was reason enough for the reproduction of this well-conceived and ably-written little treatise. Its characteristic is, that while most agricultural works neglect to explain and elucidate the causes of the various modes practised, and dwell on and argue from the effects, it is here attempted to show the origin and explain the cause of the first principles of agriculture. The new edition has been brought down to all the improvements so largely introduced within a few years, and the author, with largely increased and often-tested experience, may now well hope to assist the practical farmer to understand the principle of his various methods, and so "to till his ground with the greatest possible promise of profit, and with the least possible risk of his capital."—*The Classification of the Sciences: To which are added Reasons for Dissenting from the Philosophy of M. Comte*. By HERBERT SPENCER. (Williams and Norgate.) So complete and prevalent is the mistake which Mr. Spencer here sets himself to rectify, that many will turn to his "Reasons for Dissenting from M. Comte," with all the curiosity and interest which a recantation and confession proverbially inspire. So far, however, from retracting any of his previous teachings, he is concerned only to re-state them in contradistinction and contrast to those of M. Comte. In point of fact, he comes forward as the apologist of his own originality. It has long been supposed that Mr. Spencer was to a large extent Comte's disciple and expounder. In opposition to this view, he here gives a classification of the Sciences of his own, differing from Comte's in its governing principles. Of this classification it would answer no good purpose to attempt an account here. Those who are interested in discussions so abstract and difficult make themselves acquainted, as a matter of course, with Mr. Spencer's writings as they appear, and will judge for themselves as to its correctness, and the width and value of its departures from that of the great Positivist. But this is not all Mr. Spencer has done. He shows that though Comte was the author of "Positive Philosophy," and Positivism has got to be identified in popular speech with what may be called the scientific mode of thought and way of interpreting phenomena, the latter is not peculiar to M. Comte, and was not originated by him, but is the heritage of all men of science from past times. He then comes to the personal part of the question—to the points on which he and Comte, both of the scientific, as distinguished from the "theological" party, agree and differ, alleging that as to the former, he is under no obligation to M. Comte; for though he is at one with M. Comte, M. Comte is at one with all preceding thinkers. Of principles thus common to both, he enumerates four: that all knowledge is from experience; that it is relative; that the assumption of metaphysical entities as the causes of phenomena (instead of convenient symbolical conceptions by which phenomena may be more easily dealt with in groups) is illegitimate; and lastly that natural laws are uniform and invariable. Comte's brief enunciations of these general truths gave Mr. Spencer no clearer apprehension of them, he says, than he was indebted to older teachers for. He then gives a series of "propositions held by M. Comte," propositions which are the organising principles of his philosophy, and "propositions which I hold." The divergence is as wide as possible; but on account of the abstruse nature of the questions under discussion, we must be content with saying so, without citing the propositions themselves. One only is of sufficient general interest to be referred to:—positivism interdicts the search after causes; Mr. Spencer declares that "the consciousness of cause can be abolished only by abolishing consciousness itself." Thus radically differing from him in everything distinctive of his system, Mr. Spencer goes on to notice some other views of Comte's which equally he rejects. Whereas Comte taught that the subjective analysis of our ideas, is an impossibility, Mr. Spencer has very emphatically expressed his belief in a subjective science of the mind, by writing *Principles of Psychology*. Comte's ideal of society is one in which government is developed to the greatest extent. Mr. Spencer holds that under a perfect *politeia*, it would be reduced to the smallest amount possible, and individual freedom increased in the same proportion. Lastly, the object of Worship in Comte's system is "Humanity—the collective life of 'society' (whatever that may mean); Mr. Spencer conceives that it is, and must be, that which it has ever been—"the unknown source of things." Does not Mr. Spencer in holding the opinion last-named, break with "scientific thinking" as well as with the "Positive Philosophy"? By this publication Mr. Spencer has completely removed the impression that he was a mere slavish adherent of Comte. Every one must take pleasure in the success of one of the most vigorous and original of living thinkers, in establishing his claim to originality.

A PHILOSOPHICAL SEXTON. — One of my friends told me that he had met with a sexton, and asked him how trade was with him. The sexton replied that it was "Varra bad—nowt doin' hardly." "Well, how's that?" asked the other. "Well, thee sees," answered the sexton, "poverty seldom dees. There's far more kilt with o'er hettin' en' o'er-drinkin' nor there is wi' bein' pinched."—*Preston correspondence of the Manchester Examiner*.

THE NEXT ELECTION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—I shall be obliged if you will kindly insert the following correspondence in your next number, and oblige yours,

D. L. B.

May 2nd, 1864.

SIR,—I shall venture to offer myself to represent the — when a dissolution of Parliament takes place. . . . I am able to say that I have already received assurances of support from several influential quarters. It would be a great additional encouragement to me to feel that I should have your aid and sanction.

I have the honour, &c.,

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday, and should rejoice in the opportunity of supporting "Liberal principles" in —. It is right, however, to say frankly that, owing to the treatment Nonconformists have received from the "Liberal party" in the present House of Commons, my purpose is to give no vote—and I have two county votes and one borough vote—to any candidate who does not distinctly recognise my right to perfect civil equality with Episcopalians; and who is not prepared forthwith to act on that principle.

1. By resisting all future attempts at legislation for the benefit of Episcopalians as such, either by conferring on them new privileges or emoluments, or by the redistribution of existing revenues:

2. By supporting measures for the relief of Nonconformists, such for example as the abolition of Church-rates, and the opening to them of the national Universities, including Fellowships: and

3. By supporting in the House of Commons a motion for inquiring whether our national ecclesiastical establishments be not unjust and injurious, should such motion be made.

May I request your acceptance and perusal of a small work, sent herewith, in which the reasons of my decision are concisely stated?

I am, Sir, yours very respectfully,

Gleanings.

THE REVERSE OF A NIGHT-CAP.—A wide-awake. Lord Overstone's fortune, says the *Spectator*, is estimated at 5,000,000.

At a late wedding in Paris, the bride, Mdlle. Pareira, is stated to have worn a lace veil valued at 4,000.

Between April 18 last and the 1st inst., no less than seventy-one new joint-stock companies were registered.—*The Grocer*.

Mr. Bass has obtained leave to bring in a bill for the better regulation of street-music.

Huntingdonshire, according to the Roman Catholic papers, is the only county in England where mass is not performed.

Mr. Evard has invented a process by which any part of a photographic negative can be intensified or lightened.

The Copyright (No. 2) Bill makes sermons copyright.

The *Boston Post* states that the Federal Government has sold all its balloons—military ballooning having proved a failure.

John Reilly suffered the extreme penalty of the law on Monday morning, at Glasgow, for the murder of Mr. Luffy.

KEEPING TIME.—A gentleman at a musical party asked a friend in a whisper, "how he should stir the fire without interrupting the music?" "Between the bars," replied the friend.—*The Jest Book*, by Mark Lemon.

The number of patients relieved at the Hospital for Diseases of the Heart, 67, Margaret-street, Cavendish-square, was 147 during the week.

During an examination, a medical student being asked the question, "When does mortification ensue?" answered, "When you pop the question, and are answered, No."

An auctioneer said of a gentleman who had bought a table, but never came to take it away, that he was one of the most un-come-for-table persons he ever knew in the whole course of his life.

Mr. Coleman, of the Stock Exchange, has purchased Sir Edwin Landseer's magnificent picture of "The Polar Bears" for 3,500.—*The Reader*.

EPITAPH IN DUNMORE CHURCHYARD, IRELAND.—Here lie the remains of John Hall, grocer. The world is not worth a fig, and I have good raisins for saying so.

The directors of the London and Westminster Bank are said to have paid Messrs. Jones Loyd and Co. the enormous sum of 1,250,000. for the bank interest of their firm, the bank premises included.

One of our (American) contemporaries, in an obituary of a young lady who lately died, closed by saying, "She had an amiable temper, and was uncommonly fond of ice cream and other delicacies."

The ladies of the North Baptist Church, Hartford, Connecticut, recently invited the gentlemen of the choir to a leap-year sleigh ride. The latter accepting, the former hired a large sleigh, called for their guests, handed them in, drove them to Windsor and back, gave them a good dinner, and paid the bill, taking tender care of them all the time.

THE PORTER PUZZLED.—A lady occupying room letter B at an hotel, wrote on the slate the following:—"Wake letter B at seven; and if letter B says, 'Let us be,' don't letter B be, because if you let letter B be, letter B will be unable to let her house to Mr. B, who is to call at half-past seven."

The porter thought it over all night, but did not know at seven whether to wake "letter B" or "let her be."

NOT A FLATTERING LIKENESS.—Two friends meeting, one remarked, "I have just met a man who told me I looked exactly like you." "Tell me who it was, that I may knock him down," replied his friend. "Don't trouble yourself," said he, "I did that myself at once."

A FRENCH WAR CARICATURE.—The *Charivari* publishes a woodcut in which Prussia in military uniform, is represented at table, taking enormous mouthfuls of a tempting dish, labelled "Jutland." Close by, a diplomatist in embroidered costume is hurrying up to prevent any further absorption. Below is written, "Making all the haste possible to devour the whole before the dish is taken away."

A VALUABLE DEAD LETTER.—The Rev. Mr. Spurgeon has been known to receive as many as 400 letters in a day. Many of them are anonymous, and on many the postage is not prepaid. The reverend gentleman now refuses all the latter. One of these a short time ago, after having been in the Dead Letter-office and opened there, was sent again to Mr. Spurgeon, with a statement that the letter was anonymous and therefore could not be returned to the writer, and that it contained a valuable enclosure. The rev. gentleman paid the postage, and found a 20s. note in the letter.

Money Market.

CITY, Tuesday Evening.

The supply of money has continued to increase during the week in a greater proportion than the demand. Discount at the Bank of England still remains at nine per cent.

Consols, which closed last week at 91½ to ½ for money, and 90½ to ½ ex. div. for 8th June, closed yesterday at 91½ to ½ and 90½ to ½ respectively.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 82, for the week ending Wednesday, May 11.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.	
Notes issued ..	£26,708,560
Government Debt ..	£11,015,100
Other Securities ..	8,634,900
Gold Coin & Bullion ..	12,058,560
	£26,708,560

BANKING DEPARTMENT.	
Proprietors' Capital ..	£14,558,000
Reserve ..	8,263,320
Public Deposits ..	7,399,494
Other Deposits ..	12,901,160
Seven Day and other Bills ..	520,137
	£38,538,611
Government Securities ..	£10,785,267
Other Securities ..	21,336,943
Notes ..	5,749,710
Gold & Silver Coin ..	646,691
	£38,538,611

May 12, 1864. M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—There is no question whatever that rheumatism, neuralgia, and such like painful maladies, have been more rife this season than for some years last. The number of testimonials of cures effected by Holloway's remedies is unprecedented, and should be enforced on the attention of all sufferers from these complaints. The parts in pain should be fomented for some minutes with warm brine, dried, and immediately well rubbed with the ointment. It will pass into the pores of the skin and give the greatest relief. Many valuable lives are annually lost which might be saved if early recourse in illness were made to these remarkable remedies, which must necessarily prove beneficial and cannot do harm.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

MASEN.—May 8, at The Grove, Sydenham, the wife of Mr. Henry Mase, of a son.

STEVENSON.—May 12, at the Academy, Bere Regis, Dorset, the wife of Mr. Chas. Stevenson, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BARRITT—NEVITT.—May 4, at the Congregational Church, Stretford, Lancashire, by the Rev. J. Simson, Mr. Walter Barritt, of Aldham Hall, Essex, to Annie, daughter of Mr. John J. Nevitt, of Stretford.

CRAWFORD—BROWN.—May 7, at Rusholme-road Chapel, Manchester, by the Rev. A. Thomson, M.A., James Hunter, second son of Mr. George Crawford, Leven, Fifeshire, to Sarah Jane, youngest daughter of Mr. Hugh Brown, No. 25, Burgess-terrace, Manchester.

HUNT—CHOLERTON.—May 10, at the Baptist Chapel, St. Mary's-gate, Derby, by the Rev. J. Cholerton, of Coalville, Leicestershire, Mr. Robert Hunt, of Normanton, near Derby, to Fanny, third daughter of the late Mr. John Cholerton, of Derby.

SIMPSON—CRAVEN.—May 10, at the Independent Chapel, Allerton, by the Rev. J. M. Calvert, Mr. Richard Simpson, to Miss Margaret Craven, both of Allerton.

WATTS—CRABTREE.—May 10, at Cavendish-street Chapel, Manchester, by the Rev. Dr. Parker, Edward, second son of Samuel Watts, of Burnage Hall, to Charlotte Crabtree, daughter of Henry Crabtree, The Acacias, Burnage. No cards.

SOUTHALL—BARRINGTON.—May 11, at the Friends' Meeting-house, Monkstown, county Dublin, Norman Southall, of Montpellier Villa, and Cannon-street West, London, only son of Rillison Southall, Clifford House, Herefordshire, to Florence, only daughter of Richard Barrington, Monkstown, county Dublin. No cards.

HAMILTON—TRINDEX.—May 11, at the Congregational Church, Ealing, by the Rev. William Isaac, Mr. John Hamilton, to Miss Mary Ann Hannah Trindex, both of Ealing.

SCOTT—HARRIS.—May 11, at the Independent Chapel, Tattenhall, by the Rev. G. B. Scott, of Whitechurch, father of the bridegroom, assisted by the Rev. Alex. Wilson, B.A., of Spring-hill College, the Rev. G. F. Scott, B.A., missionary-designate, in connection with the London Missionary Society, to the island of Lifu, South Seas, to Lilla, second surviving daughter of William Harris, Esq., of The Villa, Tattenhall, Cheshire.

BATTERBEE—ROW.—May 12, at Hare-court Chapel, Canonbury, by the Rev. A. Raleigh, M.A., W. R. Batterbee, Esq., of Woodberry-vale, Stoke Newington, to Mary, daughter of the late Mr. C. J. Row, of River-terrace.

JAKES—HANDLEY.—May 12, at the Independent Chapel, West Melton, by the Rev. H. Burton, of Wath, Mr. Wm. Jakes, Wombwell, to Miss Elizabeth Handley, of Wath-upon-Dearne.

MURPHY—BURNS.—May 12, at Dr. Parker's Church, Cavendish-street, Manchester, by the Rev. John Morgan, Samuel Murphy, Esq., Rathfriland, Ireland, to Emmeline Wemyss, youngest daughter of James Burns, Esq., Greenheys. No cards.

KINGSTON—GALE.—May 12, by licence, at the Baptist Chapel, Keynsham, by the Rev. W. C. Pratt, Mr. W. Kingston, of Whitechurch, to Elizabeth, daughter of the late Mr. T. Gale, of Wiveliscombe.

ROBERTS—PHILLIPS.—May 12, at Portishead, by the Rev. N. Haycroft, M.A., of Bristol, the Rev. R. H. Roberts, B.A., of Bootle, Liverpool, to Helen, eldest daughter of Mr. E. H. Phillips, of Bristol. No cards.

ROPER—WILKIN.—May 13, by licence, at the Congregational Chapel, Wyvenhoe, Essex, by the Rev. James R. Smith, pastor, Mr. Walter Roper, to Miss Susannah Wilkin, both of East Donyland, Essex.

HOLT—ROLLING.—May 14, at the Baptist Chapel, Barnsley, by the Rev. J. Compston, Mr. Wm. Holt, to Miss Ann Rolling, both of Barnsley.

DEATHS.

BURTON.—March 8, at Sydney, New South Wales, Joseph Burton, Esq., surgeon, in his fortieth year, the fifth and eldest surviving son of John Towry Burton, of 35, Bucklersbury, London.

WATES.—April 6, at Bombay, Hannah Booth, the beloved wife of Benjamin Cunningham Wates, and only daughter of the Rev. Joseph Davis, of Portsea.

OWEN.—May 2, Mary, infant daughter of the Rev. Edward Owen, incumbent of Llandrigan; May 5, Edmund, infant son of the above-named; May 6, the Rev. Edward Owen, incumbent of Bodwrog and Llandrigan, late Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford; and May 8, Anne, the wife of the above-named Rev. E. Owen.

CATHALL.—May 5, aged sixty-nine, at Kennington-park, London, Lavinia, wife of W. Cathall, Esq., for many years one of the proprietors of the *Manchester Times*.

MARSHALLSAY.—May 6, at Wareham, in the sixty-sixth year of her age, Anna, relict of the late Mr. R. J. Marshall-say, for fifty years a faithful Sunday-school teacher.

WILLIAMS.—May 8, Hannah, the beloved wife of the Rev. J. Williams, Penistone, aged twenty-nine.

JONES.—May 11, William Cooper Jones, third son of the Rev. George Jones, Tunbridge Wells, aged ten years and one month.

BULLAR.—May 13, at Bassett Wood, near Southampton, John Bullar, Esq., in his eighty-seventh year.

SPENCER.—May 14, aged eleven years, Marion, the beloved daughter of Joseph Spencer, Esq., Bute-place, Old Trafford, Manchester.

LOWDEN.—May 15, very peacefully, Fanny Ann, the affectionate wife of J. D. Lowden, Esq., of Leinster-gardens, Hyde-park, and Thames Ditton, Surrey, the much-loved mother of the Rev. G. Rouse Lowden, of Uxbridge, deeply lamented by her sorrowing family, aged sixty-one. "Looking unto Jesus."

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, May 16.

Under the influence of fine weather the wheat trade this morning has been very languid, and with only a small show of English on the stands, the bids were fully 1s. to 2s. per qr. below the quotations of this day's night. Factors were unwilling to submit to this reduction, but in both English and foreign it would have to be conceded in order to make any progress in sales. Barley nominally the same as last Monday. Business in beans and peas dull, without alteration in value. Our market continues liberally supplied with foreign oats, and the trade has been depressed during the past week, with prices in favour of the buyer. To-day there has been a moderate demand, principally by countrymen, at about 6d. per qr. below the currency of last Monday.

BUTCHERS' MEAT, ISLINGTON, Monday, May 16.

The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 6,478 head. In the corresponding week in 1863 we received 6,189; in 1862, 3,646; in 1861, 5,430; in 1860, 3,215; in 1859, 3,865; and in 1858, 1,299 head. The supply of foreign beasts in to-day's market was a full average one, but the number of foreign sheep was only moderate. Sales progressed slowly, at about stationary prices. The arrivals of beasts from our own grazing districts, as well as from Scotland, were seasonably good as to number, and for the most part of prime quality. The receipts from Ireland were again limited, and in but middling condition. Nearly all breeds of beasts moved off heavily at fully last Monday's decline in the quotations, in some instances prices were rather in favour of the butchers. The best Scots and crosses sold at 4s 8d, prime Devons, shorthorns, &c., at 4s 4d per 8lbs. From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire, we received 2,100 Scots, crosses, and shorthorns; from other parts of England, 700 various breeds; from Scotland, 462 Scots and crosses; and from Ireland, 150 oxen and heifers. With sheep we were tolerably well, but not to say heavily, supplied. Good and prime Downs and half-breeds moved off steadily, at full currencies. Otherwise, the mutton trade was somewhat heavy, on rather lower terms. The top figure for Downs was 6s per 8lbs. Lambs, the show of which were tolerably good, were in request, at very full prices. The general rates were 6s 4d to 7s 8d, but very superior lambs made 8s per 8lbs. We had a slow trade for calves, at from 4s 2d to 5s 2d per 8lbs. The supply was good. There was very little doing in pigs, at late quotations.

Per 8lbs. to sink the Offal.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.
Inf. coarse beasts	3	2	8	6	Prime Southdown	4	10	5
Second quality	3	8	4	0	Lambs	6	4	7
Prime large oxen	4	2	4	4	Lge. coarse calves	4	2	4
Prime Scots, &c.	4	6	4	8	Prime small	5	0	5
Coarse inf. sheep	3	6	3	10	Large hogs	3	6	4
Second quality	4	0	4	4	Meatm. porkers	4	2	4
Pr. coarse woolled	4	6	4	8				
Suckling calves	16	22	22	4	Quartered store pigs	20	25	25

Buckling calves, 16s to 22s. Quarter-calf store pigs, 20s to 25s each.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, May 16.

These markets are moderately supplied with most descriptions of town and country-killed meat to-day. The trade generally is dull, and prices rule in some instances 2d per 8lbs. lower than on Monday last.

Per 8lbs. by the carcass.

	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.				
Inferior beef	2	8	3	0	Small pork	4	0	4	6
Middling ditto	3	2	3	6	Inf. mutton	3	6	3	10
Prime large do.	3	8	3	10	Middling ditto	4	0	4	4
Do. small do.	4	0	4	2	Prime ditto	4	6	4	8
Large pork.	3	2	3	10	Veal	3	8	4	8

PRODUCE MARKET, TUESDAY, May 3.

BREAD.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 6½d to 7d; household ditto, 5d to 6d.

PROVISIONS, Monday, May 16.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 482 firkins butter, and 2,302 bales of bacon; and from foreign ports 14,284 casks of butter, and 623 bales and 69 boxes of bacon. The demand for Irish butter is very limited, quite of a retail character; a few fine Clonmel shipping sold at 100s. on board; third Cork;

offering at 94s landed to arrive. Foreign butter in good demand; best Dutch advanced to 104s. The bacon market ruled quiet; but at the end of the week there was more disposition to purchase, and the market closed firm, at 52s to 60s landed, according to quality, condition, &c.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, May 16.—The supplies of potatoes on sale at these markets have, since we last wrote, fallen off, and the market to-day is but moderately supplied with most descriptions. For good and fine samples there is a moderate demand, at our quotations; otherwise the trade is very well; unsound produce, however, is a dull inquiry. Last week, 3,856 boxes arrived from Genoa. The currency is as follows:—Yorkshire Regents 50s to 60s, ditto Flukes 55s to 70s, ditto Rocks 44s to 50s, ditto 8 edgings 45s to 55s, Scotch Regents 40s to 55s, ditto Rocks 35s to 45s per ton.

FLAX, HEMP, COIR, &c., Saturday, May 14.—We have to report a dull trade for flax, and prices are stationary. Hemp moves off heavily, and clean Russian is now quoted at 34l to 36l per ton. Jute is firmer, and prices vary from 8l to 30l 5s per ton. Coir goods are rather inactive, without material change in value from last week.

SEEDS, Monday, May 16.—There has been a very small demand for seeds during the past week. In red seed the small quantity obtainable prevents any amount of speculative business. White seed, with limited supply, is held firmly. The inquiry for trefoil continues, with few sellers.

WOOL, Monday, May 16.—Since our last report a full average business has been transacted in nearly all kinds of English wool, at fully the late advance in the quotations. The high range in the value of cotton, and the firmness with which the public sales of colonial are progressing, impart great confidence to the holders of home-grown qualities.

COALS, Monday, May 16.—The market heavy, at last day's rates. South Hetton 18s, Haaswell 18s, East Hartlepool 17s 3d, Kellie 16s 6d, Turnhall 16s 3d, Bryn 16s 6d, Tramelgate 15s 9d, Hartley's 16s 3d, Tanfield 14s 6d, Dean Primrose 12s 9d. Left from last day 23; fresh arrivals 57.—Total, 80.—Ships sea, 125.

OIL, Monday, May 16.—Linseed oil is firmer, and quoted at 39s 9d per cwt. on the spot. Most other oils, however, are in slow request, at about previous rates. Foreign refined rape 43s 6d, brown 41s 6d, fine palm 38s, Cochin coconut 42s, Ceylon, 37s 3d to 37s 6d per cwt. Gallipoli olive is held at 62l, sperm 76l per tun. French spirits of turpentine are quoted at 83s per cwt. American refined petroleum 2s 3d per gallon.

TALLOW, Monday, May 16.—The tallow trade is steady to-day, and prices have a downward tendency. P.Y.C. is quoted at 40s 3d per cwt. on the spot. Town tallow 38s 9d net cash. Rough fat 2s 0½d. per 8lbs.

Advertisements.

HOROLOGICAL SCIENCE.

"Here are arranged a fine selection of watches manufactured by him on the latest and most approved principles of horological science."—Daily News, July 1, 1862.

Chronometer, duplex, lever, horizontal, repeaters, centre seconds, keyless, split seconds, and every description of watch, adapted to all climates. Benson's Illustrated Pamphlet on Watches (free for two stamps) contains a short history of watch-making, with prices, from 3 to 200 guineas each. It acts as a guide in the purchase of a watch, and enables those who live in any part of the world to select a watch, and have it sent safe by post. Prize Medal and Honourable Mention, Classes 33 and 16. J. W. Benson, 33 and 34, Ludgate-hill, London. Established 1749.

Watch and Clock Maker by Special Warrant of Appointment to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.



OSTEO-EIDON.

MESSRS. GABRIEL'S INVENTION.

GABRIEL'S Self-adhesive PATENT Indestructible MINERAL TEETH and FLEXIBLE GUMS, without palates, springs, or wires, and without operation, are indestructible, and warranted for mastication or articulation, at half the usual cost.

MESSRS. GABRIEL,

THE OLD-ESTABLISHED DENTISTS,

37, HABLEY-STREET, CAVENDISH-SQUARE;
34, LUDGATE-HILL (over Benson's, Silversmiths), LONDON
184, DUKE-STREET, LIVERPOOL; and
65, NEW-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

AMERICAN MINERAL TEETH, from Four to Seven and Ten to Fifteen Guineas per Set, best in Europe, warranted. Gabriel's Practical "Treatise on the Teeth" gratis.

GABRIEL'S WHITE GUTTA-PERCHA ENAMEL, chemically prepared for personal use, prevents Toothache, and arrests decay,—supercedes all metallic stoppings. Prepared only by Messrs. GABRIEL, and sold by all Chemists, at 1s. 6d. per box, with directions for use, or post free Twenty Stamps.

TEETH and PAINLESS DENTISTRY.

Messrs. LEWIN MOSELY and SONS, 30, Berners-street, Oxford-street, and 448, Strand (opposite Charing-cross Railway Station), Established 1820, offer to the Public a medium for supplying Artificial Teeth on a system of PAINLESS DENTISTRY. These Teeth are cheaper, more natural, comfortable and durable than any yet produced. They are self-adhesive, affording support to Loose Teeth, rendering unnecessary either wires or ligatures, require but one visit to fit, and are supplied at prices completely defying competition. Consultation free. Teeth from 5s. Sets, 5, 7, 10, and 15 guineas, warranted. For the efficacy and success of this system, vide "Lancet." No connexion with any one of the same name.

TEETH supplied by Messrs. GODFREY received the Prize Medal awarded at the International Exhibition of 1862. One visit only required for their adjustment. They will last a life, and again restore the sunken face to its original beauty. A set from 2l. 10s to Thirty Guineas. Stumps extracted painlessly. Teeth filled with gold—guaranteed for twenty years.
17, Hanover-street, Hanover-square, W.

REMOVAL.—Messrs. ALEX and JONES, Surgeon-Dentists, have REMOVED their practice to 53, BROOK-STREET, GROSVENOR-SQUARE, in consequence of their premises, 31, New Bridge-street, being required by the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway.

LEWIS'S LIEBLICH ORGANS, £25.—These novel and highly-effective instruments, now brought forward for the first time, are made of the very best materials and workmanship, and from the peculiar beauty of the tone, are equally adapted for Churches, Chapels, Drawing-rooms, or Schools.—Sole Agent, G. CARR, 77, Cheapside, E.C.

PIANOFORTES FOR HIRE.

CARRIAGE FREE.

Option of Purchase, on Convenient Terms, at any Period.

PEACHEY'S

CITY OF LONDON MANUFACTORY,
AND EXTENSIVE SHOW-ROOMS,
73, Bishopsgate-street Within, London, E.C.,
opposite the Marine Society.

An extensive assortment of PIANOFORTES, WARRANTED
New and Second-hand. Every Description and Price.
HARMONIUMS FOR SALE OR HIRE.
* * * New Grand Pianofortes for HIRE, for Concerts, Lectures, &c.

PIANOFORTES, with EASY TERMS of PURCHASE.

Honourable mention for good and cheap Pianofortes was given by the Jury at the Great International Exhibition, 1882, to MOORE and MOORE, 104, Bishopsgate-street Within, London, E.C. See the Royal Commissioners' Report. Pianofortes Extraordinary. These Pianos are of rare excellence, with the best improvements, recently applied, which effect a grand, a pure and delightful quality of tone, that stands unrivalled.—Prices from Eighteen Guineas.

First-class Pianos for hire, with easy terms of purchase. A very large and choice Stock for Selection; also a variety of Second-hand Pianos at low prices.

The Best Harmoniums for Sale or Hire. Carriage free.

DÎNERS À LA RUSSE.

A VARIETY OF NEW DESIGNS

IN

(SILVER PLATE AND SILVER GILT
DINNER SERVICES

FOR THE SEASON 1864.

MAY BE SEEN AT

MAPPIN BROTHERS,

Silversmiths,

LONDON BRIDGE, & 222, REGENT STREET W
MANUFACTORY AT SHEFFIELD.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1810.

SECOND-HAND PLATE PURCHASED OR EXCHANGED.

SAUCE.—LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

This delicious Condiment, pronounced by Connoisseurs

"THE ONLY GOOD SAUCE."

Is prepared solely by LEA and PERRINS.

The Public are respectfully cautioned against worthless imitations, and should see that LEA and PERRINS' Names are on Wrapper, Label, Bottle, and Stopper.

ASK FOR LEA AND PERRINS' SAUCE.

* * * Sold Wholesale and for Export, by the Proprietors, Worcester; Messrs. CROSSE and BLACKWELL; Messrs. Barclay and Sons, London, &c., &c., and by Grocers and Oilmen universally.

PURE PICKLES, SAUCES, JAMS, &c.

And Table Delicacies of the highest quality, pure and wholesome. See "Lancet" and Dr. Hassall's Report.

CROSSE AND BLACKWELL,

Purveyors to the Queen,

SOHO SQUARE, LONDON.

May be obtained from all Grocers and Oilmen.

HORNIMAN'S PURE TEA
It is CHOICE and STRONG, BECAUSE it consists of most valuable growths that are full of rich essential properties.

It is MODERATE in PRICE, BECAUSE it is supplied direct from the importers to the consumers by Agents.

It is WHOLESOME to use, BECAUSE the leaf is not faced with the usual powdered mineral colours.

These COMBINED ADVANTAGES have secured for this Tea a general preference. It is sold in sealed packets, with the price printed on each, and signed—

Horniman & Co.

TAYLOR BROTHERS' GENUINE MUSTARD.

Dr. HASSELL, having subjected this mustard to a rigorous microscopical examination and chemical analysis, reports that it contains the three essential properties of good Mustard, viz:—

PURITY, PUNGENCY, AND DELICATE FLAVOUR.

See that each Package bears their Trade Mark the "Prize Ox," and Dr. Hassell's Report.

Sold by all Grocers, &c., throughout the kingdom.

TAYLOR BROTHERS, Brick-lane, & Wentworth-street, London, N.E.

Established 1801.

Rail Paid to any Station in England.

Very Choice Marsala or Bronte Wine.

THOMAS NUNN and SONS have great pleasure in bringing this excellent yet economical Wine to the notice of their customers; the approvals of it continue numerous and most flattering; it is of the highest quality, well matured, and full-bodied, and so thoroughly clean tasted that it will go on improving for years to come; and has this advantage over Sherry, that it may be taken by the most delicate person without causing acidity in the stomach. Their selections have been made with so much care, that they have no hesitation in saying the most perfect satisfaction will accrue to every purchaser.

25s. per doz. 7l. 4s. per 6 doz. 12l. 15s. per 4 cask.

From THOMAS NUNN and SONS,

Wine, Spirit, and Liqueur Merchants,

21, Lamb's Conduit-street, Foundling Hospital, London, W.C.

A Priced List of every kind of Wine, Spirit, and Liqueur sent on application.

CANDLES. Prize Medal. PARAFFINE

Adopted by Her Majesty's Government for the Military Stations.

J. C. & J. FIELD,

The original Manufacturers, and holders of the 1862 Prize Medal, caution the public against any spurious imitations. Their label is on all Packets and Boxes.

Sold by all Dealers throughout the Kingdom. Wholesale and for exportation at the Works, Upper Marsh, Lambeth, London, S., where also may be obtained their celebrated United Service Soap Tablets.

FIELD'S CELEBRATED

UNITED SERVICE SOAP TABLETS,

4d. and 6d. each, sold by all Chandlers and Grocers throughout the Kingdom; but the Public should ask for FIELD'S, and see that the name of J. C. and J. FIELD is on each Packet, Box, and Tablet.

Wholesale and for Exportation at the Works, Upper Marsh, Lambeth, London, S., where also may be obtained their Prize Medal Paraffine Candles.

KINAHAN'S LL WHISKY VERSUS COGNAC BRANDY.

This celebrated old IRISH WHISKY rivals the finest French brandy. It is pure, mild, mellow, delicious, and very whole some. Sold in bottles, 3s. 8d. each, at most of the respectable retail houses in London; by the appointed agents in the principal towns in England; or wholesale at 8, Great Windmill-street, Haymarket, W. Observe the red seal, pink label and cork, branded "Kinahan's LL Whisky."

TONIC BITTERS.—WATERS' QUININE

WINE, the most palatable and wholesome Bitter in existence; an efficient Tonic, an unequalled stomachic, and a gentle stimulant. Sold by Grocers, Italian Warehousemen, and others, at 80s. a dozen. Manufactured by Robert Waters, 2, Martin's-lane, Cannon-street, London. Wholesale Agents, E. Lewis and Co., Worcester.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.

JOSEPH GILLOTT, METALLIC PEN-

MAKER to the QUEEN, begs to inform the Commercial World, Scholastic Institutions, and the Public generally, that, by a novel application of his unrivalled Machinery for making Steel Pens, he has introduced a NEW SERIES of his useful productions which, for EXCELLENCE of TEMPER, QUALITY of MATERIAL, and, above all, CHEAPNESS in PRICE, must ensure universal approbation, and defy competition.

Each Pen bears the impress of his name as a guarantee of quality; they are put up in boxes containing one gross each, with label outside, and the fac-simile of his signature.

At the request of numerous persons engaged in tuition, J. G. has introduced his WARRANTED SCHOOL and PUBLIC PENS, which are especially adapted to their use, being of different degrees of flexibility, and with fine, medium, and broad points, suitable for the various kinds of Writing taught in Schools.

Sold Retail by all Stationers and Booksellers. Merchants and Wholesale Dealers can be supplied at the Works, Graham-street, Birmingham; at 91, John-street, New York; and at 87, Gracechurch-street, London.

SEWING MACHINES of the very First

Class of Excellence and Workmanship, in each of the various descriptions of stitch, for cloth, linen, leather embroidery, and glove-sewing, including Prize Medal Machines. The quality of these Machines can always be depended on. For sale under direct supply, retail, wholesale, and for exportation.

The American and English Sewing Machine Company, 457, New Oxford-street, London, W.C.

"EXCELSIOR" FAMILY SEWING-MACHINE.

Sews from two ordinary Spools, requires no re-winding, finishes its work where it stops, and the seam, if cut a very inch, will not rip. It is eminently adapted for Family Sewing, and is so easily managed that a child can work it with facility. It will Hem, Fall, Stitch, Gather, Quilt, and Embroider in a very superior manner, and with the most wonderful rapidity.

Price, complete, from Six Guineas.

WRIGHT and MANN, 143, HOLBORN BARS, LONDON.
Manufactory: Gipping Works, Ipswich.

PRIZE MEDAL AWARDED, 1862.

LADIES BELTS.—The increasing demand for these supports has caused W. H. BAILEY to devote particular care to their manufacture. They are made of various qualities and prices, to suit all who are suffering from the complaints incidental to females. Prices, 15s., 21s., 31s. 6d. and 42s.

ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEE CAPS, and SOCKS, for Varicose Veins.

TRUSSES of the most improved description from 10s. 6d. each.

W. H. Bailey and Sons, Surgical Instrument Maker, 418, Oxford-street, London.

NOTHING IMPOSSIBLE.

THE GREATEST AND MOST USEFUL INVENTION OF THE DAY,

AGUA AMARELLA.

Messrs. JOHN GOSNELL and CO., THREE KING-COURT, LOMBARD-STREET, LONDON, Perfumers to Her Majesty, respectfully offer to the Public this truly marvellous fluid, which gradually restores the Human Hair to its pristine hue, no matter at what age.

The Agua Amarella has none of the properties of dyes; it, on the contrary, is beneficial to the system, and when the hair is once restored, one application per month will keep it in perfect colour. A single bottle will suffice, price one guinea; half bottles, 10s. 6d. Testimonials from artists of the highest order and from individuals of undoubted respectability may be inspected on application.

Messrs. J. G. and Co. have been appointed Perfumers to her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales.

TRADE



MARK.

BROWN AND POLSON'S

PATENT CORN FLOUR

is much recommended

FOR CHILDREN'S DIET.

RECIPE FOR INFANTS' FOOD.—To one dessert-spoonful of Brown and Polson's, mixed with a wine-glassful of cold water, add half-a-pint of boiling water and a grain of salt; stir over the fire for five minutes; sweeten slightly; but if the infant is being brought up by hand, this food should then be mixed with milk—not otherwise, as the use of two different milks would be injurious.

WITH HARPER TWELVETREES' UNIVERSAL CLOTHES-WRINGER (IVES' PATENT) LACE CURTAINS can be "done up" beautifully. No twisting and tearing and no mending required. Price 30s. with Cog-wheels. Carriage free from the Manufactory, Bromley-by-Bow, London, E. Active Canvassers wanted in every town.

MAKE YOUR OWN SOAP.

HARPER TWELVETREES' GLYCERINE SOAP POWDER has triumphantly won its way into every home. It is a complete luxury for washing, is perfectly saponaceous, and possesses remarkable cleansing and nourishing properties. A week's washing for a small family may be accomplished in a few hours, saving one-half of soap, two-thirds of time, and three-fourths of labour. A penny packet will make one pound of strong glycerine washing soap. The weekly consumption of this popular article is considerably greater than the sale of all the other washing powders in the world. Patentee: Harper Twelvetrees, Bromley-by-Bow, London.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS of HARPER TWELVETREES' GLYCERINE SOAP POWDER:—
"Sir,—I have analysed your Glycerine Soap Powder, and have found it to be a compound of such materials as are used in the manufacture of soap, as described in your Royal Letters Patent of 22nd August, 1862. I have also analysed, at your desire, the contents of various packets made up by other makers in imitation of your Glycerine Soap Powder, which do not contain any of the properties of your soap-making powder; nor, on being dissolved in boiling water and afterwards allowed to cool, do they form a thick soapy paste, as with your preparation.
FREDERICK VERMANN,
"Consulting and Analytical Chemist,
"London, April 11, 1863."

Every packet of "Harper Twelvetrees' Glycerine Soap Powder" contains Harper Twelvetrees' signature. Sold in penny packets everywhere. Manufactory: Bromley-by-Bow, London, E.

THE LACE-DRESSER to Her MAJESTY the Laundress of Buckingham Palace, the Dyers to the Queen, and the Laundresses to her late Majesty Queen Adelaide. And **BRIGGS' AUSTRALIAN SATIN GLAZE STARCH** unequalled by any other. Wholesale agent, Harper Twelvetrees, Bromley-by-Bow, London, E.

HARPER TWELVETREES' WASHING MACHINE, which is exciting so much attention throughout the United Kingdom, washes all kinds of Linen, Sheets, and Blankets with half the usual labour, firing, and soap. The extraordinary sale of these popular Machines is the best proof of their efficacy and superiority over every other Washing and Wringer Machine ever introduced to the notice of the English public. Prices: Washing Machines, with rocking frames included, 45s., 55s., 75s.; Washing Machines with wringers attached 75s., 85s., and 105s.; Mangles at 30s., 40s., 50s., 60s., 70s. Carriage free from the Works, Bromley-by-Bow, London, E. Sold by Ironmongers everywhere.

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A CHILD can easily wring out a tubful of Clothes, large or small, in a few minutes, with **HARPER TWELVETREES' UNIVERSAL CLOTHES - WRINGER** (Ives' Patent). Carriage paid from the Manufactory, Bromley-by-Bow, London, E., for 30s.

CITY SHOW ROOMS for DOMESTIC MACHINERY.
Purchasers of **WASHING MACHINES** 50s. and 60s.; **CLOTHES WRINGERS**, 20s., 30s., and 40s.; and **MANGLES** 30s., 40s., and 50s., are respectfully invited to inspect the Stock at **HARPER TWELVETREES' Show Rooms**, 81, Bishopsgate-street Within, E.C.

CHING'S WORM-DESTROYING LOZENGES have for sixty years held a distinguished reputation, and are still and increasingly patronised by the highest names in rank, respectability, and science, from a personal knowledge of their utility in their own families. It is a fact established by the Annual Bill of Mortality, that one-half of the Children born are cut off before attaining Seven Years of age, and the fruitful source of this mortality is found to exist in that foul state of the Stomach and Bowels which produces the generations of Worms. As the safe restorer of Infantile Health, in this critical state, many fond and anxious Mothers, who have successfully had recourse to these Lozenges can gratefully testify to their excellence.

Ching's Worm Lozenges are peculiarly adapted and recommended for exportation to the East and West Indies, and warm climates generally, as their virtue remains unimpaired by time.
Wholesale Agents, "Edwards, 67, St. Paul's," whose name is on the Government Stamp. Sold in packets at 1s. 1½d. and boxes at 2s. 9d. each by most respectable Chemists, and dealers in medicines.

DINNEFORD'S PURE FLUID MAGNESIA has been, during twenty-five years, emphatically sanctioned by the Medical Profession, and universally accepted by the Public, as the best remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion, and as a Mild Aperient for delicate constitutions, more especially for Ladies and Children. When combined with the Acidulated Lemon Syrup, it forms an agreeable effervescent draught, in which its Aperient qualities are much increased. During Hot Seasons, and in Hot Climates, the regular use of this simple and elegant remedy has been found highly beneficial.

It is prepared (in a state of perfect purity and of uniform strength) by **DINNEFORD and CO.**, 172, New Bond-street, London; and sold by all respectable chemists throughout the world.

SUGAR of MILK for INFANTS.—
Cow's Milk contains a much larger proportion of caseum than human milk; human milk contains a much larger proportion of sugar of milk. To produce the desired substitute it is requisite to dilute the milk with water, so as to reduce the proportion of the caseum existing therein to a level with that of the caseum contained in human milk; at the same time, the deficiency of sugar of milk must be corrected by the addition of that substance. Sugar of milk is made in Switzerland, and is refined and prepared for use by **J. EPPS**, Homoeopathic Chemist, 112, Great Russell-street; 170, Piccadilly; and 43, Threadneedle-street.—Sold at 2s. per lb., in ½ lb., and ¼ lb., and 1 lb. packets.

THE EASIEST BOOTS and SHOES in the WORLD are **M. HALL'S PATENT PANNUS CORIUM**, which never draw the feet or cause the least pain to corns or bunions. Also the finest Bordeaux Calf, prepared expressly for ease. Cash prices for either kind. Side-spring boots, 21s.; Oxonian shoes, 12s. 6d. The very best workmanship, materials, and style. Address **M. Hall**, 54, Bishopsgate-street Within.

Now ready, in cloth, with a Portrait, price 16s.,

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Carriage paid to the Country on Orders over Twenty Shillings. Illustrated Price List post-free.

Useful Cream-laid Note	2s. 0d. per Ream.	Super Thick Cream-laid Envelopes	4s. 6d. per 1,000
Superfine Thick ditto	3s. 0d. "	Large Blue Office ditto	4s. 6d. "
Superfine Blue Foolscap	6s. 6d. "	Best Black-bordered ditto	1s. 0d. per 100.

SERMON PAPER, plain, 3s. 6d.; ditto, ruled, 4s. 6d. per ream.

P. and Co.'s Universal System of Copy Books, with beautifully-engraved Headings, good paper, copies set, 1s. 4d. per dozen, or 15s. per gross; "School Pens," 1s. per gross; School Penholders, 1s. 6d. per gross; Slate Pencils, 100 in box, 5d.; Straw Paper, 1s. 9d. per ream. Good Copy Books, 40 pages, 2s. per doz., or 21s. per gross.

FOR STAMPING. Crest Dies Engraved 5s. Business Dies from 3s. 6d.

PARTRIDGE and COZENS, No. 1, Chancery-lane, and 192, Fleet-street, E.C.

BEAUTIFUL HAIR.—CHURCHER'S TOILET CREAM maintains its superiority for imparting richness, softness, and fragrance to the Hair, as well as being a most economical article. Price 1s., 1s. 6d., and 6s. Batchelor's Instantaneous Columbian Hair Dye is the best extant, 4s. 6d., 7s., and 14s. per packet. Sold by Hairdressers, and at **R. HOVENDEN'S**, No. 5, Great Marlborough-street, W.; and 93 and 95, City-road, E.C. N.B.—Wholesale warehouse for all Hairdressers' goods.

HAIR DYE! HAIR DYE! HAIR DYE!
GILLINGWATER'S ATRAPILATORY is the best Hair Dye in England. Grey, red, or rusty hair dyed instantly to a beautiful and natural brown or black without the least injury to hair or skin, and the ill effects of bad dyes remedied. Sold by all Chemists and Perfumers of repute, and by the Proprietor, **W. Gilligwater**, 353 (late 96), Goswell-road. Sent free to any railway station in the kingdom, in cases, 3s. 6d., 5s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. each. Beware of Counterfeits.

HAIR DESTROYER for removing superfluous hair on the face, neck, and arms. This real disfigurement: female beauty is effectually removed by this article, which is easily applied, and certain in effect. In Boxes, with directions for use, 3s. 6d. each. Sent free to any railway station, and may be had of Perfumers and Chemists, and of the proprietor, **W. Gilligwater**, 353 (late 96), Goswell-road. Sent free to any railway station. Beware of Counterfeits.

BALDNESS PREVENTED.—GILLINGWATER'S QUININE POMADE prepared with cantharides restores the hair in all cases of sudden baldness, or bald patches where no visible signs of roots exist, and prevents the hair falling off. In bottles 8s. 6d. and 5s. 6d. each. May be had of all Chemists and Perfumers, and of the proprietor, **W. Gilligwater**, 353 (late 96), Goswell-road. Sent free to any railway station. Beware of Counterfeits.

RUPTURES.

BY HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

WHITE'S MOC-MAIN PATENT LEVER TRUSS, requiring no steel spring round the body, is recommended for the following peculiarities and advantages:—1st. Facility of application; 2nd. Perfect freedom from liability to chafe or excoriate; 3rd. It may be worn with equal comfort in any position of the body, by night or day; 4th. It admits of every kind of exercise without the slightest inconvenience to the wearer, and is perfectly concealed from observation.

"We do not hesitate to give to this invention our unqualified approbation; and we strenuously advise the use of it to all those who stand in need of that protection, which they cannot so fully, nor with the same comfort, obtain from any other apparatus or truss as from that which we have the highest satisfaction in thus recommending."—*Church and State Gazette*.

Recommended by the following eminent Surgeons:—**William Ferguson**, Esq., F.R.S., Professor of Surgery in King's College, Surgeon to King's College Hospital, &c.; **C. G. Guthrie**, Esq., Surgeon to the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital; **W. Bowman**, Esq., F.R.S., Assistant-Surgeon to King's College Hospital; **T. Callaway**, Esq., Senior Assistant-Surgeon to Guy's Hospital; **W. Coulson**, Esq., F.R.S., Surgeon to the Magdalen Hospital; **T. Blizard**, Esq., F.R.S., Surgeon to the London Hospital; **W. J. Fisher**, Esq., Surgeon-in-Chief to the Metropolitan Police Force; **Aston Key**, Esq., Surgeon to Prince Albert; **Robert Liston**, Esq., F.R.S.; **James Luke**, Esq., Surgeon to the London Truss Society; **Erasmus Wilson**, Esq., F.R.S. and many others.

A Descriptive Circular may be had by post and the Truss which cannot fail to fit can be forwarded by post, on sending the circumference of the body, two inches below the hips, to the Manufacturer.

Mr. WHITE, 228, PICCADILLY, LONDON.

Price of a Single Truss, 10s., 21s., 26s. 6d., and 31s. 6d. Postage, 1s.

Price of a Double Truss, 31s. 6d., 42s., and 52s. 6d. Postage 1s. 8d.

Price of an Umbilical Truss, 42s. and 52s. Postage 1s. 10d.

Post-office Orders to be made payable to John White, Post Office, Piccadilly.

NEW PATENT

ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEE-CAPS, &c
The material of which these are made is recommended by the faculty as being peculiarly elastic and compressible, and the best invention for giving efficient and permanent support, in all cases of WEAKNESS, and swelling of the LEGS, VARI-COSE VEINS, SPRAINS, &c. It is porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and is drawn on like an ordinary stocking. Price 4s. 6d., 7s. 6d., 10s., to 16s. each. Postage 6d.

John White, Manufacturer, 228, Piccadilly, London.

STARCH MANUFACTURERS

TO H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

GLENFIELD PATENT STARCH
Used in the Royal Laundry,
AND AWARDED THE PRIZE MEDAL, 1862.

TO INVESTORS.—Messrs. ROBERTS and COMPANY'S STOCK and SHARE PRICE LIST and REPORTER, contains full Reports on Mines and other Companies, Closing Prices, Notices of Meetings, and other information useful to Shareholders in all Public Companies. Special inspections made, and clients cautioned against unsound Stock.

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